

異世界はスマートフォンとともに。

5

冬原パトラ
illustration 兎塚エイジ



In a Different World with a Smartphone

Isekai wa Smartphone to Tomoni

Book 5

by Fuyuhara Patora

[Novel Updates](#)

Translator: [Raising the Dead](#)

Epub : [TolloWN/LN EPUB](#)

Colour illustrations





ブリュンヒルド公国
建国祭、開幕!!

Arc 15: Great Forest Sea, Great Snow Mountain

Chapter 107: Spider and Crystal Material

Brunhild settled down after the friendship party ended safely without any problem.

Though I got delayed due to various matters, I formally passed an engagement ring to Rue. I cannot leave things like this for a later time. Aside from me being late, I also need to do it properly.

Even if she didn't mind such things, Rue happily accepted it. It had the same design and magic effect as with everyone.

[With this I can finally puff my chest and say I am Touya-sama fiancée]

Seeing her looking really happily at the ring, I feel guilty... I should have given it to her earlier.

While we were sitting down at the balcony table and while I was sneaking a look at Rue beside me, Rin came accompanied by Pola.

[A Fureizu appeared. It is somewhere around the center of the forest sea. A relief request came to Misumido from the tribe living there]

We stood from our seats with a clunk except Rue, who was the only person who didn't understand and was cluelessly staring.

[And, what happened to Fureizu? Was it defeated?]

[No, it is still there crushing the tribe villages while thoroughly exterminating humans and demi-humans that it sees. I heard that it has a big spider-like figure]

A huge spider Fureizu? In that case, is it the same intermediate level as the Manta from the other day? Or is it possible in an even more advanced level? [Aport] most likely won't work. It would be nice if I could smash it with [Gravity] though.

[Let's go. I don't know whether we can defeat it, however we can't leave it alone. Furthermore.....]

[It may be possible to encounter that kid, right]

I give a small nod to what Rin said.

End. The mysterious boy who easily defeated the manta type Fureizu we were hopeless against. I am still hung on the words about the [King of Fureizu] he left us. Just what the hell does it mean.....?

[Anyway let's head to the Forest Sea in Babylon]

=====Scene Change=====

[A crystal monster that destroyed the ancient civilization.....?]

We tell Rue the rough story of everything up until now while traveling in

Babylon. In the first place, what are the Fureizu? They might be sealed in another dimension with a special method because they rip the space from where they appear. The seal was broken and from there, those Fureizu that were sealed for 5000 years started to appear..... is the summary of everything, I guess.

If we are to believe End words, then the Fureizu's goal is to search for the [Fureizu King]. However, what the Fureizu are doing is just one-sided massacre. Besides, does that massacre even have any meaning to it?

In the first place, what happened 5000 years ago? Who performed the seal? Where did the Fureizu come from? We don't know anything. However, End most likely knows everything. I failed to catch him last time, but if I meet him this time.....

[Master, we are above the destination]

Being called by Shizuka, I turn my eyes to the ground displayed on the monolith. A monster, extending its eight thin legs just like spider, is cutting down the trees in the Great Forest Sea, while skewering the tribal people living in there.

[It is large. About the same as the manta earlier]

[But I am grateful just for it not being able to fly in the sky ~degozaru]

Definitely. Fighting the one before was difficult because it was flying in the desert. There are also places to hide this time, which I believe is very helpful. I just have to make sure not to get crushed under knocked down gigantic trees though.

[In any case let's hurry. That village will be wiped out if we don't]

While we were transferring to the ground, the tribe's women started shooting arrows, and invoking magic to resist the Fureizu.

Magic is not effective against the Fureizu. Both magical power and magic itself are being absorbed. It can't absorb magic the way the [Imbibe Demon's bracelet] does, and it is also different from Demon Lord [Magic nullification] that negates magic. But it is still a troublesome ability capable of converting magic itself into magical power.

The brown-skinned women then faced it with curved swords, but the Fureizu just extended a sharp arm and cut them down one by one.

[Itsu! Miyomana, takojikashigarino!]

Looks like one young tribal girl is giving out the orders, but I couldn't really understand her. Is it a different language?

She seems to be the leader. Is that because it is her instruction, the bow and arrow party is retreating step by step. Seems like they are trying to buy time to let the civilians retreat.

Taking aim at that young girl, the feet of the spider Fureizu extended like a spear.

[Accel boost!]

I run through the sea of trees while taking out the Mithril greatsword from [Storage], and repel the spider arm spear approaching the young girl. And just like that, I hold the young girl who was surprised by my sudden appearance in my arms, and greatly jump backwards putting distance between us and the Fureizu.

「アクセルブースト！」

【ストレージ】からミスリルの大剣を取り出しつつ
樹海を駆け抜け、少女に迫る腕槍を弾く。

「ニ」は任せて早く避難……って、言葉通じないか！」

若い部族の少女が何やら命令を下してはるようだが、
全く聞き取れない。
共通語じゃないのか?
神様の翻訳付与も万能じゃないらしい。



I let the young girl down, and ready my greatsword again.

[Leave it to us and evacuate quickly....., right, you can't understand my words~?]

I point towards inside the forest to tell her to escape that way. However, the young girl raised her eyes and approached me.

[emou, orutetotokoichimerako!?sanatoaneko, boko!!]

[No, like I said I can't understand what you are saying]

Seeing this young girl I realize the women of this tribe surely are very brave. The young girl in front of me as well holds an axe in one hand, and is painted with red paint from head to toe.

Though she has a healthy brown skin, I can't stand the little clothing she is wearing. On her upper body, the chest is covered with only one sheet, while her lower body is covered with only loin cloth. Wearing something like sandals on her feet, and something covering the back of her hands and wrists, she is almost half-naked. The tribe seems to be living quite a different life than that of the people in the city.

And then this young girl is packing considerable stuff, even though I think she is about the same age as me. It is exaggerated to point where it will burst from the chest cover. I avert my eyes without realizing that I have already been looking at them unconsciously.

[EMOUMENAGURIODO! OACHINAKUOHOKAKONOA! KERESORURIZE!]

She keeps rattling about something, but I have no idea what it is. Did she

expose my glancing look? For the time being I prepare the greatsword, and readied myself to attack that spider Fureizu. Aiming for one leg, I activate [Gravity] the moment I slashed downwards. The small leg is smashed to pieces with the converted ultra-heavy greatsword.

[Looks like [Gravity] will work somehow]

However, the smashed leg regenerated immediately. It has just absorbed the magic the tribe attacked with little while ago. As I thought, the only way to defeat this guy is to smash the core after all.

Three cores in center of the body, lined up at equal intervals. They have an orange glow like the Manta from earlier.

[Lindsey! Rin! Drop the ice on this guy!]

Reacting to my words, the two people chanted the water magic [Ice Rock], and a large mass of ice is dropped on the spider from overhead. The Fureizu sank its body due to the weight for an instant but then, it tries to push (the additional mass) aside with a 'gigigi' sound. However, I can't have you do this.

I stand above the mass of ice lying on the Fureizu after jumping up. I then changed the weight of the mass of ice to ten of times its initial value by activating [Gravity].

Together with the body creaking, the mass of ice begins to crack with a 'pакки' sound. Apparently the magic ice cannot endure its weight. It is quite solid to be able to endure it this far.

Before long the ice got smashed, and the Fureizu released from the weight jumps up. With that timing, I activate [Gravity] on the greatsword and properly make a powerful downward swing.

[Break]

I strike the Spider Fureizu body with a blow that made it sink into the ground. GAKYAAAAAN! A large echo is made by the smashed spider Fureizu that was still standing. Among the clattering shattered fragments, I smashed all three exposed cores with Brunhild.

[Fu~.....]

I managed it somehow. I defeated it with more easily when compared to before. That's [Gravity] for you. Though not being able to use it directly on the Fureizu's body is difficult.

[emou.....nonamenedo.....?]

The brown young girl from before muttered in amazement. As usual I still don't know what she is saying, but I can understand that she is surprised just from her expressions.

When I look around, a lot of people who are injured and fell down can be seen nearby. This is not good.

[Target lock. Any injured person within 500-meter radius. Activate Cure Heal]

『Roger. Targets acquired. Cure Heal activated.』

A magic formation of light floats above the wounded people, and gently pours light on them. The wounds of the injured people who received the light instantly closed, and got healed.

The young girl who saw that ran toward her collapsed companions.

[You disposed of it quite easily]

Rin came over to me who jumped down from the wreckage of the Fureizu. Indeed. It is like the past fights were lies.

Rin picked up scattered fragments of the Fureizu in both of her hands and softly strike them on each other. Next, when she adds more power and strike them hard, they easily break down. What is she doing?

[So it has the strength of the average glass. Though I surely thought if it was possible to make armaments with those fragments]

Fumu. Definitely, if there is a weapon with that hardness then it might be possible for someone like Elsie and Yae to fight the Fureizu. However, because it's integrity falls down when it dies, its worth as material is non existent. Can it be used as glass instead?

[I wonder why these guys are so hard in the first place. Still, they could be using defense magic.....]

[.....Maybe! Defense magic made by magical power! If we assume that it has special characteristic which applies magic power to the body, then stores and emits it.....!]

Rin once again picks up broken pieces in both hands, and strike them together strongly while pouring magic power in those fragments. The clear high-pitch sound came out, but the pieces didn't break.

[Like I thought. This material possesses characteristic that resembles a magic stone. Even more, its conductivity of magical power is better by a long stretch. The conversion formula technique is almost 100%. I can't believe that by combining it with magical power it can become this strong]

[I don't get it. Summarize it for me]

Rin is saying difficult things, but that how it is with her after all.

[In other words, whatever magic power you pour in, this fragment will absorb it and will produce extreme hardness. Also, it can regenerate itself because of the magic power it accumulates until the stored magic power depletes]

I can't believe it. Then, this means, If I create an armor from it, will that be an ultra-hard armor capable of regenerating itself unless the magic power is depleted?

Conversely, if a weapon is made, it will be an indestructible weapon unless magic power is emptied.

There is an issue due to its considerable weight, but it is irrelevant to me since I can use [Gravity] and [Enchant].

.....Isn't that a goldmine?

[Target Lock. Fureizu wreckage, including fragments. [Storage] Activate]

〔Roger. Targets Acquired. Storage activate〕

The magic formation spreads on the ground onto the scattered Fureizu wreckage and its fragments as well, and they vanished like sinking in water. Recovery complete. Hey, if I knew how valuable this thing was, I would have also collected the remains of the fellow in the ruins and desert. What a regrettable thing it is.

Chapter 108: The women tribe, and the Increase of vassals

[ea, emou]

When I turned around, there was the brown young girl standing. What do you want?

[MAONONEKUGOWA, NOESATSUKIRUTONEHOEMOUNONEKO?]

[Like I said, I don't understand what you are saying]

While I was wondering on how to properly reach mutual understanding, Rin cuts in.

[[Are you the one who healed everyone's injuries?]] Is what she is saying]

[Do you understand what she is saying?]

I spontaneously stare at Rin interpretation in amazement. Although, somehow I can sense there is some pattern to the words.

[How many years do you think I have lived! There are people even in Misumido who can understand this girl's Rauri tribe language]

That's reminds me, she said a request for help came to Misumido. Then there is no way, that no one in Misumido don't know their language, right?

[Your name...let me see...Onoto, nomou ho?]

[Pam]

Apparently, her name is Pam. It is really inconvenient when you can't understand the language. Knowing that Rin can converse with her, she talks about various things, but I have no idea what she is talking about. I am feeling uneasy about Pam flatteringly peeking in this direction, but what is it about, I wonder?

[End didn't appear after all.....]

I thought he would turn up if a Fureizu appeared, but it doesn't seem to be the case. I wonder if it is not that important for him to defeat the Fureizu?

[But it even went around and flashily destroyed everything]

When I try to take another look at my surroundings, the wreckages of broken houses are scattered around here and there.

This village apparently builds its houses on the trees and its appearance is like that of tree houses. A suspension bridge made of rope is used to move from tree to tree.

Inside the densely grown jungle, the sunlight is shining only in the place where Fureizu rampaged and was cut down.

[It appears there are some people who have passed away]

Rue looks bitterly at the women who are grieving. When I look at the sobbing figures clinging to the remains, if I had arrived even faster..... I couldn't help thinking that.

[Still, I don't think there is a magic that can revive people after all.....]

To me who muttered those words lightly, Lindsey who is next to me answers in low voice.

[..It is not like there none, however.....]

[Eh!?]

Is there a magic that can revive a dead human!? No, it is not something that me who died once can say for sure though.

[...In the highest class of light attribute magic, there is a resurrection magic. However, its conditions are severe, you know]

Conditions? Are you saying that in order to revive someone, some necessary items are needed? I don't think it is the same as a priest-san asking for a [Donation] like in games though....

[...First of all, 1 hour must not yet pass from the moment of death. Second, there should be no obstacles which hinders the body's life functions. In addition to that, it is said that enormous magical power and life force is required]

[Life force?]

[...Putting it simply, it is the life itself. In other words, it means that at the time

when the other party revives with magic, there is possibility that the caster will die]

...Such a high risk. Definitely it will be impossible to use not unless one has the resolution to put one's life on the line to resurrect someone.....

However, that much might be necessary to bring someone back to life. Even for me, the compensation for reviving was to be separated from my world. I will consider how grave the extent of that matter some other time.

[At any rate.....]

I was concerned since a little while ago, but there are a lot of women in this tribe. Or rather, are there any men at all? Have they already been killed by Fureizu? When I was thinking about that, Rin came back before I was aware and explained it.

[Rauri tribe is a women only combat race. There are no men to begin with. That young kid, Pam, seems to be the matriarch's grandchild]

Are they Amazones? I never thought I would come across them in this place. Whenever they reach the age where they can make children, apparently they steal men from other tribes and [pair] with them.

And if the child that was born is a boy, he will be expelled from the village together with the father. If the child is a girl, she will be taught how to fight as child of the village. Seems like they raise children like this. In the latter case, the father is eventually expelled as well. It is scary because they say that around until 100 years ago the father was to be killed.

As a man, when I heard Rin's story, I shivered sensing Pam's eyes staring at me.

[What?]

When I looked at Pam suspiciously, she suddenly started running towards me, and jumped with the same vigor.

[Wha.....!?]

I got startled by that sudden behavior, but with Pam being quite lighter than I thought, I managed to catch her somehow. Funyon, the sense of touch was transmitted, and my face almost melted unconsciously. But, the next moment, sharp pain ran across my neck.

[idda———a!!!?]

I was bitten! She bit me with all her heart! What's with this girl!? Was she raised by the monkeys!?



When I tried to remove Pam because of the excessive pain, she withdrew by

herself first.

[W-what.....!?]

When I put my hand on bitten neck, blood was oozing out. What for ! ?

After Pam looked at me and fearlessly laughed, she turned around and run back. What is going on!?

The surrounding tribe's people who saw that raised a noisy uproar without calming.

[Are you alright, Touya-san?]

Lindsey cured the injury on my neck with recovery magic. Ah~ it was painful.

[It seems like she likes you]

[Where did you see that!?]

Rin made a remark I couldn't understand. In what place can you say that this is a feeling of affection? Normally, this is a reaction of hate like from a stray dog or a wild animal.

It is unbearable even if you are bit by another person. Let's withdraw quickly. Since a while ago the look in the eyes of other people seem strange. Why?

I open [Gate], and we return to Babylon in the sky. Picking up Shizuka and

Rosetta, we returned straight back to Brunhild's castle.

[Ah~ master, welcome back]

From inside the frame hanging on the staircase landing, Ripple brought out only her upper body and waved at us. I have also became accustomed to this view.

[I am home, Ripple. Did anything happen?]

[Ah~, A guest came]

A guest? Now? I wonder who it is?

=====Scene Changed=====

[Huh? Tsubaki-san?]

[it's been long time -degozaimasu]

Because everyone said they wanted to take a bath, I parted with them and came alone to the audience room. Tsubaki-san, a kunoichi from Ishen, was there kneeling on the red carpet and looking up. She was wearing a white coat and a black muffler with black culottes. It was worn out in various ways indicating her long journey. The long black hair was also left in straight style without change.

「え?」

「こちらでお仕えさせていただきたく思い、
推参仕りました」



異世界はスマートフォンとともに。5

[What you doing in such faraway place? Is it some kind of mission?]

Within the Four Heavenly Kings of Takeda, she is one of Takeda's ninjas under Kousaka Masanobu. It is normal to think about her like this.

[No, I'm no longer Takeda's ninja. It may be presumptuous of me, but I desired to have a privilege of serving here]

[Eh!?]

After listening to Tsubaki-san story, It seems Takeda's territory received a new lord, and after a short while she was called by Kousaka-san. He said [Takeda's future looks grave with how things are going. Before it is too late, take your clan and serve another house]. Tsubaki-san rejected it at first, but she was forcibly discharged before long.

[When did that happen?]

[About two months ago. After that, I immediately went on a journey.....]

Is that so?... Kousaka-san had been looking ahead even at that time. What an amazing guy.

When I explained Takeda's situation which I heard from Baba-san recently, Tsubaki-san nodded with consent.

[And because of that, Kousaka-sama drove me out.....]

[However, why my place? You could go to someone like Tokugawa or Oda, right?]

[Tokugawa as well as Oda are only feudal lords after all. In that respect, Touya-san... in addition to Touya-sama's power, you are a gentleman who might

become the next King of Belfast. I don't think there is even need to compare. However, I didn't imagine that you have already become a king]

Anyhow, she seemed to have heard rumors about this country during her voyage to Belfast. She quickly sailed the big river of Gau, and traveled towards here after hearing the details and understanding that this was my country.

[Well, a lot of things happened here too. Then, what shall we do? This is not a large country like Belfast, since this is a country that was just recently made]

[Yes. I wish to serve Touya-sama if you are fine with me]

If the other side doesn't mind, then I also absolutely don't mind. The increasing number of companions is reassuring. Besides, perhaps the Takeda Four Heavenly Kings may come to our house as well.

[Then, if you could bring the people of my clan to the castle.....]

[..... wait for a moment. People of your clan?]

[Yes. Since the whole clan of Takeda's ninjas came here]

What did you say!? Come to think of it, what did Tsubaki-san say a little while ago? [Before it is too late, take your clan and serve another house], even if she said that..... you mean like that!?

[Ano..... By the way, how many people are in the clan?.....]

[It will be around 67 people, if you include the children]

[Si.....!]

Too many! Or rather, good job managing to travel with that many people!

What was your plan if you didn't find out whether I passed away by some chance?

[Umm... What should I do?... Well, there is no problem for you to live in this country. Though, I also probably won't be able to hire everyone like Tsubaki-san in the castle]

[In that case, you don't need to worry. In general, all clan ninjas hold sideline jobs ~degozaimasu, since they should have a way to be able to make a living]

Then that's fine. That reminds me, I think I read in some books that in order for ninja to infiltrate other countries, they have different occupations as cover. Is their way of thinking the same in this world as well?

Indeed, I think they can hunt wild beasts or catch fish since there is also a forest and river here. I don't have to worry that much regarding food, aside from other things that might be necessary.

Maybe merchants are necessary... So that they could visit other countries and trade. Should I try to consult with Misumido's Orba-san and Leaflet's Zanakku-san?

[The number of citizens increased in one go]

[You are right]

I reply while wryly smiling to what Lime-san said who is waiting by my side. In any case, I call the three knights of our house, and order them to allow the people from Tsubaki-san's clan inside the castle. For now, I will lend the barracks which aren't yet being used as lodgings.

Just in case, I requested Rain-san to be on the lookout should there be any people doing anything strange. If it's her, she will be able to listen attentively with that prized rabbit ears, right?

[Master, a letter arrived]

[N?]

Shizuka came to audience hall with a letter in her hand during the time when Tsubaki-san and others were leaving. It is possible for an acquaintance or an ally to get in contact with me immediately using the [Gate Mirror] I gave them. I wonder from where did it come from.

I received the letter, and skimmed through the contents. Oh my, what's with this timing.

[From who did the letter come from?]

Lime-san enquires about it. I pass him the letter and encourage to read it.

[This.....]

[Seems like the number of people will increase again]

The sender was Masanobu Kousaka. It came through the [Gate Mirror] I gave to Baba-jiisan the other day. Unfortunately, the current head of Takeda family neglected the people, and with the crime affluent, the people made quite a racket. The territory was seized, and was apparently bestowed formally upon Oda and Tokugawa by Ishen's Emperor.

That was short.... Even though it would have been good for him to behave since he was looked after due to Kansuke's case, is it because of that? Did he act recklessly in order to surpass his great father? Or is he truly a foolish lord? In any case, Takeda Katsuyori will be sent to the capital and will be exiled later or something like that.

With that, as the result of the Four Heavenly Kings conference, it seems they decided to serve in Brunhild.

I appreciate talented people. Shall I consult Kousaka-san about the matters from before (about merchants)? Among Takeda four heavenly kings, I have yet to met Kousaka-san.

Let see, shall I go and meet him? I then opened a [Gate] to Ishen.

Chapter 109: Highway, and Checkpoint

[The highway should be repaired first. The town cannot develop if people don't visit it]

Kousaka-san said while looking at Brunhild's map.

Kousaka-san is younger than Baba-jiisan, but he is still more than 60 years old. With a grizzled top knot hairstyle, he looks gentle at first glance but his discernment is sharp. As expected of the one who rose up serving the Takeda's house.

A slightly unexpected event happened when I went to meet Baba-jiisan and the Takeda's Four Heavenly Kings after receiving the letter. Several Takeda's soldiers who lost a place to go said they would like to come to my house too. They were probably subordinates that idolized the Four Heavenly Kings. Well even though they were about 50 people, my house couldn't honestly employ any of them right now since we still didn't have any income yet.

I could manage some way or another if I used the mass production capabilities of [Workshop], but I don't think it is good idea to excessively depend on it since it would be the end if [Workshop] broke down because of something.

[Well, it is possible to construct a highway immediately if we use earth magic.....]

[A highway just from Belfast to Regulus is needed immediately, so please make one. However, other than that, Touya-sama... Heika(Your majesty), don't

be too much involved in anything. If Heika does almost everything, the people will be overly dependent. Only when it is too much for themselves to handle something alone that it is fine to extend a helping hand.]

Is that so? Well, humans are creatures capable of degradation. As one would expect, will that be bad for a recently created country?

[Next is the reclamation of the eastern part of the country as agricultural area. We can make several rice fields by drawing water from the river using canals. Though it would be nice if the soil there is similar to the soil here. After that, what will be sold to the merchants, and whether it could turn as income for the country.....]

Strictly speaking, it is about the percentage of money and other things coming from merchants based from their produce that should be collected as tax.

Honestly, I don't think I need the taxes. I earn enough for myself and my family. But Kousaka-san says the county will not function well in that situation. I decided to entrust the matter to him, though I said in advance that he keep the taxes as low as possible.

[It would be nice if this country has a specialty product. This land originally belongs to Belfast and Regulus, therefore there is nothing in here as well. All that's left is to sell technology or something.....]

[For now, I can teach the manufacturing technology to make a bicycle. I think we can earn some income with this for a while. Though eventually, some other countries may start imitating it, I guess]

The bicycle itself is unusual and convenient, but a wagon is better if you carry a lot of baggage, and the horse is better if we are talking about speed. But since

there is demand for bicycles, I think it will turn into a business if the technology is taught. However, it seems that it will be quite difficult to make them on the same level as the ones I make.

[Anyway, let's try doing what we can. Since I will entrust Kousaka-san the agricultural area (of business), you do as you like. If it is no good, we will think about it at that time]

When I went to the training ground after parting with Kousaka-san, our three knights were being treated really well by Baba-jiisan's group as usual.

Since there was nothing like a knight order in our house yet, I asked Baba-jiisan and Yamagata-ossan to act as sort of battle instructors.

[Ou, youngster. Is your talk with Kousaka over?]

[Because Baba-jiisan tentatively became my retainer as well, it is irresponsible of you to keep calling me 'youngster']

[Don't say such a hard thing. You see, I will properly call you [Heika] on formal occasions since I can make formal and personal distinction just in case]

That's it. I have feeling that it is useless no matter what I say, even though he was hitting my shoulder while laughing.

[I'm different on that aspect, as it is useless to only tell that to Baba-dono, Chief]

[You apparently just changed from calling him by name to 'Chief', Yamagata]

[It is fine, isn't it? Chief. Sounds important, right?]

I suppose there are other ways beside 'dono' or 'waka'. Good grief. No matter what, I am not good when it comes to dealing with those two. Hah, that's fine already.

[By the way, I plan to get provisions and supplies since it is almost noon. Also, since it will serve as training, I am thinking of having Rain-san's group accompany me]

[For hunting? That's fine, but with those guys in that state?]

Yamagata-ossan pointed at the three people stretched on the ground. Only Nicola-san, whether it is by the willpower of a young man, is left standing with his feet trembling. It's only his fox ears that fell down.

[Light come down, the breath bringing health, Refresh]

After I chanted the spell, grains of soft light poured onto the three people. After a few moments, the three people that were crumbled stood up, jumped up and down hopping, swung their swords, and started moving their bodies.

[My fatigue disappeared.....]

[Wow, is this Heika's magic? Amazing!!]

[Kuu, I am worthless. I have no excuse, Heika]

It is the fatigue recovery magic: [Refresh]. It doesn't cure injuries, but it recovers stamina and physical fatigue. If it is used, I can bring forth a fatigue-unaffected physical strength. But since it doesn't change things that were overdid, I feel it is better not to use it too much.

(tlc: muscle soreness, i guess)

[Our house's Chief is a ridiculous guy as usual.....]

Yamagata-ossan complains in such way. Well, I'll think of it as being praised.

[Now then, as for lunch, what would you like to eat? For the list, choices are hog, bird, ah, also crab.....]

[[[[[[Crab!]]]]]

Is everyone in agreement? Oh well, it is fine. Let it be Bloody Crab. Including all members in the castle and since one is about the size of a dump truck, should hunting two of them be fine?

[Ah~ talking about having you hunt a Blood Crab, you will be careful, alright? After all, it is classified as red rank in the guild]

[[[[Eh?]]]]

The three were stunned. Since red rank means a first class adventurer, I guess it is as expected?

[Don't worry, because Yamagata-ossan and Baba-jiisan will assist you]

[We will! ?]

That's right of course. I will have you show your abilities.

=====Scene Change=====

In the end, I defeated one of the wasteland's bloody crabs using [Gravity]. It did not even take 1 minute!? The last one, leaving it to the five people as I watched as a mere spectator... didn't work. As I watched how the 5 people fought, I sometimes supported them with recovery magic and simple attack magic. Everyone fought continuously for 30 minutes, and Bloody Crab was finally silenced. As expected, it was really hard since everyone is fighter type and don't use magic. That shell is really solid after all. Was their compatibility too bad?

[Good job~]

[...Chief... I now understand how much of a monster you are.....]

Yamagata-ossan turned his dull tired eyes towards me. How rude. The two "former" Takeda family members are somehow standing up, but their breath is rough nonetheless. Rain-san's group of three knights are completely unsteady. I apply [Refresh] same like before.

No matter what, the ability of those two is the real thing as expected because they have managed to defeat a red rank monster. Furthermore, the other three people were supporting them so they fought with all their might.

I stored the Bloody Crab in [Storage], and we returned to the castle. Heading directly to barracks, I presented the crab for everyone. Oh right, I wonder if we have enough seasoning? Tentatively, things like salt and miso and so on exist here, therefore I think we should be alright. I have to make sure the peddlers can come quickly to include those as well.

I left dismantling of the crab to Baba-jiisan and the others, and decided the make the highway from Belfast to Regulus.

Because there was a danger zone here originally, a highway was stretched to the south making it a big detour. For this country to be passed by, a new highway has to be made. It is not supposed to be a bad thing since it would shorten the travel time of people going to Belfast and Regulus and vice versa. As for the original highway, it will be left as it is so that people who don't want to come to our country will go that way.

[Maybe I should also establish a checkpoint at the border in advance? It will be unpleasant if strange guys come here]

Though it means that I will have to tamper a little with the highway between Belfast and Regulus as well, it will be fine since I received their permission. Well, I can connect it to the current highway for now.

I use [Gate] and appear on the highway on Regulus side first.

[Can i connect it from here to Belfast side in one go? It is probably better to make it straight rather than strangely meandering and twisting]

First, using Earth magic, I flatten the ground straight until Belfast side. That much is already enough for it to pass as a road, but let's add a stone pavement with a slightly better smoothness so that carriages and their likes can travel easier.

After that, I built simple looking checkpoints at the borders of both Belfast and Regulus. Though I will have to rebuild them into proper ones later. And then, let's set up some signposts. [Brunhild Dukedom this way] will do.

However with this set up, people will just pass by without even stopping. The

castle will be seen midway from the highway, but how many will ever say [Let's go look over there]?

Well, it is not like the castle itself will do business, so shall I get Tsubaki-san's clan to set up shops on the highway? Something related to eating and drinking that allows people to take a break will be good, right? It will be an excellent place to gather news and gossips from travelers.

Apart from that, a road to the castle is also necessary. I make a stone-paved road similar to the ones before until the castle gates.

I smelled something good when I approached the front side of the castle. Is it crab stew? My stomach is empty.

=====Scene
Change=====

It was decided that teaching the bicycle manufacturing method will be done in the afternoon. And, even though I say that, the one who was going to teach is not me, but Rosetta. Well, she does know more details than me after all..... If it is going to be manufactured from the start without using any magic, it is better to leave it to her. She is not the [Workshop] manager just for a show. Generally speaking, if she was an engineer, she would surely be a top notch one.

After entrusting Rosetta with the production side, I then became the person who teaches bicycle riding. It is not going to sell if no one is able to ride it after all. Because the children mistook it as a play thing (though I think it is understandable) and came pestering me with "give us a ride, give us a ride", I made several small ones for their use.

Surprisingly, the both adults and children mastered how to handle a bicycle in blink of an eye. Their sense of balance is on whole new level. Takeda's ninjas are scary.....

After that, I have to gather the soldiers and have them take turns on guarding the checkpoints. Since there are about 50 people here with 4 people on each country's side, a total of 8 people are needed. Shall I have them take turns for 8 hours every two days? The one who does not work, shall not eat. Okay.

I lend the batons enchanted with [Paralysis] to the people going to the checkpoints. Night duty is dangerous after all. Because I have made a [Program] for the batons to be usable only by those people, there won't be a problem even if they are taken.

For them be in contact in case something happens, I had them take along the familiars called by summon magic, since it is possible for the familiar to communicate with me telepathically. A dog was summoned for Belfast's side, and cat for Regulus' side.

With this, it should be good. Were we able to put together the appearance of a country?

Chapter 110: Talent Scout and Bento

[Hou, it started taking shape of its own]

[That's right, that's right]

When I mutter my impression as I see the several shops built along the highway, Naito-ossan who is standing next to me happily nods. This person in charge of the management here, Naito Masatoyo, is one of the former Takeda Four Heavenly Kings. Doesn't he look like a lantern in daylight by standing here? Despite that, he looks just like a tired salaryman.

Even if there are still only coffee shops, bicycle shops, weapon shops, armor shops, and tool shops, it already cannot be seen as anything but a shopping street.

The citizens of our nation built their houses in a place diverging from the highway. Come to think of it, I thought houses and shops would resemble those made in Ishen style, but it wasn't like that. The houses were made with bricks like those in Belfast and other various western countries.

[That's because if you emphasize foreign culture too much, the other side will wary too much]

Is what Natio-ossan said.

Since it also came to the point where travellers are now coming and going, isn't that an acceptable start? Inside weapon shops, things like unusual swords

(up to things like ‘shuriken’) are put up. Coffee shops include food from Ishen and other delicacies like roll cakes, ice cream, pudding and french fries.

A while ago, a rich man has decided to buy a bicycle. It does look thriving, isn’t it?

At this rate we could make a decent living. Well, since there are only a few citizens, we could manage even if the income is low.

『Heika. This is Yashima Itarou from the western checkpoint. A merchant saying that he is Heika’s acquaintance came to visit』

Huh? A telepathy just came in. Since it is from the west side, is he a merchant from Belfast? Using the western checkpoint familiar as intermediary, it became possible to contact me. It is also quite convenient.

『Who is it? What’s the name of this merchant?』

『He called himself ‘the fashion merchant Zanakku’』

Zanakku-san? He did a good job making it here from Leaflet.

『I understand. I will be there shortly』

When I opened [Gate], and instantly appeared at Belfast-side’s checkpoint, I saw an unfamiliar and excessively decorated wagon with Zanakku-san dressed in unfamiliar clothes, standing beside it.

[Yaa, long time no see. Ooops, was it bad to speak to the king that way?]

[I don't care about those things. Welcome to Brunhild Dukedom]

This is the person who treated me kindly when I first came to this world. That didn't change even after I became a king. I shook hands with Zanakku-san, and spoke with him.

[And, what important matter brought you to this country? Do you have some business in the Empire?]

[There is that too. However, my first goal is to start a business in this country as well. I would like to build a branch office here. [Fashion King Zanakku – Brunhild Branch], how does it sound?]

Hahaa. I see. That's very brave, alright. Despite not knowing whether people will still gather here.

[No no! It is a country that you established. There is no way people won't gather. And, I will be the first one when that happens. It also advantageous to hold on to a good spot in advance.]

Is that your plan? Though it doesn't seem like a boutique would flourish currently, I would be troubled if there is none at all. Also, due to the rush in construction and farming that is happening right now, clothes will get dirty and be damaged quickly as well, I think.

When we went into the [Gate] and returned to the center of the highway, I introduced Zanakku-san to Naito-ossan. In addition to dispatching workers, I have them discuss the allocation for the plot of land, construction expenses, and other various things. Since I am an amateur regarding these, I left it to them.

Nevertheless, a branch office? Zanakku-san is a skilled person as well to be able to extend his reach from Leaflet to here. Well, it is probably because he has good connections with me though.

Speaking of Leaflet, are Doran-san and Mika-san doing well?...Oh?

Wait a minute. I just noticed, but this country still doesn't have an Inn! Surely, I thought this place only as a transit point, but a place where travelers and peddlers can stay might be necessary. Isn't that right?

Mmm~..... an Inn? it would be nice if it can become a place for eating and at the same time, a place for gathering news. A professional hand is required for that.... I won't lose anything by asking, right?

=====Scene

Change=====

[And, that's why, I was wondering if you could open a [Silver moon] branch in our country]

[...That still came out suddenly, Oi]

Doran-san sighed while folding his arms. It is reasonable. Even I know that it was way too abrupt.

[We will handle the construction of the inn, but I want to entrust its management to Doran-san's group by hiring someone like a shop manager]

[Is that what you mean by branch...?]

Doran-san inclines his head. Well let's not discuss the small details.

[And, you say you want to invite Mika to be in charge of that branch office?]

[Isn't that fine, I want to go! It sounds interesting!]

In the dining hall of [Silver Moon], Mika-san interrupted Doran-san who sat across from me from the side. It seems like Mika-san is eager.

[Umm~... but, you see, if Mika is gone the situation in our house would become severe as well]

[A~ah, I wonder if that is true? Won't it be fine if I ask Tanya-san to help? She is still giving enough help even now]

[Ba~, you, that person is...!]

Doran-san suddenly got panicked. Tanya-san is that one, right? If I am not mistaken, she is the widow living in the north side of the town. I have met her several times. What? Does she have such relation with Doran-san?

[On the contrary, wouldn't it be better if I am not here~. Well, leaving that aside, for a king-sama of the whole country to personally come here to ask, there is no way to refuse, right?]

[...! Ah~ I got it! Just go! Don't come back crying later!]

Mika-san said 'Hooray' after getting the desperate Doran-san's consent and made a small triumphant pose!

In this case, I would like to make a bath-house in the inn as well, but there is

also a little problem about drawing the water from the hidden hot spring in Belfast. As expected, our reputation will not be good if we take resources from other countries.

Since there is a water canal in Brunhild, will it be fine if I use it as a source of hot water? Though it won't have the efficiency of a hot spring, but it will be more than enough as a public bath. Also, I can merge [Refresh] and [Recovery] into it.

I take Mika-san and go back to Naito-ossan's place in Brunhild for now.

[Oya, isn't this Mika-san? Is [Silver Moon] coming here by any chance?]

Though Zanakku-san was having a deep talk with Naito-san, he looked here and smiled.

[Since I decided to make an inn supervised by the state, I have managed to headhunt a shop manager]

[Oya, that's enviable. If you going to make employee's uniform, please come to my store]

[Nice doing business with you]

Maybe because she thought Zanakku-san was joking, Mika-san just laughed. I think it was most likely not a joke Those were the eyes of merchant.

I also have Naito-ossan talk with Mika-san and consider the Inn's location. With It being tentatively managed by the state, shall I have them make it on a larger scale? A space for the bathhouse is necessary as well. After I told them that rooms were prepared for them to come to the castle later, I parted with

Mika-san and the others.

As I was strolling on the highway towards the castle, two children, a pair of brother and sister siblings came running on small bicycles from the opposite side.

[A~ Heika! Good day~!]

[Good day~! Heika~!]

[Hi, good day]

While greeting them, the children ran past me without stopping. How lively~! I am very happy they are pleased with the bicycles. You wouldn't believe that those innocent kids are from a ninja clan.

After seeing the children's silhouettes become smaller, I start walking again. This time a familiar girl comes running from the front while carrying something in her hand.

[Touya-sama!]

[Huh, Rue. Is something wrong?]

Rue who came running while panting, offered me what she was carrying. A two layered box and flask, is it?

[It is a bentou. I brought it because you didn't return at noon for lunch.....]

[Ah... now that you mention it, I didn't]

I received the bentou and after we moved away from the highway and went under the shade of a tree, I brought out chairs and a table from [Storage]. When I spread out the bentou that i received, there were fried rice with meat and vegetables, Nikujaga cooked with kinpiragobou, fish stew with fried egg, and a lot of side dishes aligned side by side. Though their shape was somewhat collapsed.

[Hmm? this wasn't made by Claire-san, right?]

[Ah~ yes. This..... I made it. Because I was told that Touya-sama likes Ishen cooking, I asked Clair-san as well as Tsubaki-san to teach me..... It is somewhat out of shape since it was my first time.....]

[Is that so...]

Making so much for the first time, isn't it more than enough? With chopsticks at hand, I tried to taste the Nikujaga. Yes, it is as delicious as usual.

[It is delicious. I can't believe it is your first time]

[Really?! Thank god!]

Rue, almost bursting in joy, expressed her happiness. She is exaggerating. This girl has quite a lot of emotional expressions. Though I think that makes her cute as well. Nonetheless, because both Yumina and Rue usually give a dignified princess feeling, it feels more suitable for their age when I see such part of them like this. I think it is charming.

[.....Is there something wrong?]

[n-no. I was thinking you are cute]

[fuee~!?]

Oops, my real thoughts came out. I made sure to continue eating the bentou and not to look at Rue whose face turned bright red very fast. I am kinda embarrassed. But it is really delicious. Like this Nikujaga, I quite like it.

[a-ano, Touya-sama, a-a food you hate, is there any?]

[No, I think? There is nothing in particular. Ah well, anything extreme spicy is not good though]

Elsie's extreme spicy chicken was heartless..... That is something only the person who made it can eat.

[Then, is there anything you like?]

[Umm, Japanese... Ishen food, maybe? I like anything that matches with boiled rice..... Oh, I like the wonderful taste of this Nikujaga. It is the best]

[Ah~ thank you very much.....]

When I praised her cooking, Rue's face that settled down turned red again. How hectic.

[I was interested in cooking since a long time ago. However I wasn't allowed to cook in the castle..... Since the day I met Touya-sama, everyday has been fun]

That's right, she is a princess after all. There is no way they would let her cook. But, it is really a waste to ignore such talent!

I finished eating the lunch box, put back the chairs and table in [Storage], and together we began walking back to the castle.



Rue intermittently kept looking here while walking next to me. She tried

reaching her hand to mine and then withdrew it back again and again, so I reached out mine and grasped her small hand.

Though she was surprised, she grasped back tightly.

[ehehe]

We return to the castle holding hands while Rue is smiling shyly. We probably look like a brother and a sister if anyone sees us from that side. Well, there is no need to hurry. Sooner or later, the time will come when we will look like lovers or maybe a married couple.

Since all of us will be living in this county for a long time.

Chapter 111: Arctic region, and Magical Ice

Since the construction of both Zanakku-san's clothes shop and [Silver Moon] Brunhild branch has started, this area is becoming more and more like a shopping street. Although, there are still not enough goods, we will cover this aspect somehow.

Luckily, there are only a few citizens, so there is no need to worry too much about the circumstances regarding food. There are wild vegetables, berries, harvestable yam, and animals like hogs and rabbits in the forest as well. There is also plenty of fish in the river. It is exactly what the Belfast and Regulus majesties said. The land here is rich. Well, I guess that's the reason the magic beasts has spread here.

Well, I can say that nation-building is generally going smoothly. At that time, Tsubaki-san brought some information.

[To the north from the Empire, I heard that in the arctic territory of Elfura Kingdom, there is something like transfer formation that Heika talked about]

What? Apparently, it is an information from a merchant that came here from Elfura. It seems there is a strange cylindrical object in the middle of the closed ice cave that no one can enter by any means. I see, it was the same for the one in the desert, right? Though its shape seems to be different this time.

Nevertheless, if that professor also made them uniformly, it would be easy to look for them with search magic. I probably could do it in one go by looking for something like a [Transfer Formation]. Since how they look outside is different

from one another, they can only be recognized as relics. I won't know until I enter them, though it will be obvious once I go inside. However, since a barrier was also thoroughly placed inside, search magic is repelled.

When I think this thoroughly up to this point, it comes down to me wanting to suspect whether this is a harassment or not. Of course, it is not yet certain that the object inside this cave is a transfer formation.

However, good job finding it. As expected from ninja. Is information gathering your specialty?

[With this, the number of Master's treasured dolls will increase once more]

[.....whenever I think that the number of people like you will increase again, that already makes me depressed, you know]

I retorted my sentiments unpleasantly at Shizuka who just nonchalantly mumbled. However, I already thought of this before, but regarding the personalities of these fellows, I have a feeling that they are made from parts of the professor's personality. I suspect that the attitude towards making things came out strongly in Rosetta. On the other hand, Shizuka's forte is erotic jokes.

After I displayed the map, I have Tsubaki-san show me the place where she heard about it. It is far to the north and even further. Isn't this the farthest end? It will probably be cold.

[For now, I will have Rosetta and Shizuka head there first with Babylon. When it gets cold, will you go inside the house?]

[No need to worry. The barrier is built to preserve the moderate temperature

inside Babylon, therefore it is not a big deal whether it is either hot or cold]

Now that you said it, it was not very hot during the time we went to the desert too. Does the function of the air conditioner has a vast range? Very convenient~. When I think about it carefully, it probably is a necessary function for the garden's plants as well. There might be some seeds weak to cold or heat too.

After sending out Shizuka and Rosetta, I went to Rin's house with everyone. And when I told her that another transfer formation was discovered she jumped happily. Honestly, it would be fine even if I didn't tell her that, but I am scared of what would happen once she learnt about it.

After telling everyone that we going to arctic region, everyone return to their rooms to prepare. It won't be a problem for me since I have this coat. After all, it has cold-resistance, heat-resistance, cut-resistance, impact-resistance, and magic-resistance effects applied. It was not hot even in the desert, so it should be fine.

I am taking only Kohaku this time, since Sango and Kuroyou offer to stay home.

『We are weak against the cold. It is not like we can't move, but our bodies get slightly restrained』

I see. It is not strange since they are a snake and a turtle. It is inconvenient, but I am glad that humans are not weak to that extent.

=====Scene Change=====

..... I was naive. I underestimated the arctic region. What's with this cold? Is this coat's cold-resistant function not working? How low is the temperature! And yet, everyone else is looking around with calm face! What does that mean!?

[W-why do you guys have a calm face like it is nothing? A-aren't you cold?]

[Because I am using warming magic, you know. Everyone beside yourself is under normal temperature state]

Rin causally lets out a joke. That's unfair! Why am I the only one left out!?

[A perfect protection against cold, you said it yourself, right?]

I really said that! But, I'm sorry, I was overconfident! So, let me also have that magic, please!

[Heat come here, Warm Barrier, Warming]

Rin's magic light wrapped my body. Oh, the coldness was mitigated. As a test, I tried picking up snow from the thick pile, and it wasn't really cold. But the snow didn't melt quickly as well. Apparently, this magic doesn't raise body temperature. It might be similar to a barrier that protects the body against cold.

I try to look around now that the cold has settled down. A big ice hole is spread on the hillside covered with coniferous forest. The ice-covered cave is continually stretching downwards below. Apparently, the relic is somewhere inside that cave.

We set food inside the cave. Even though [Warming] is effective, I can still feel the chill piercing through my back. I light up the way with [Light], and advance slowly.

[It is slippery, so be careful. Pay attention to your feet and slowly...]

The instant I turn around to tell everyone to be careful, I lose my footing and fall down on the ice. Ouch. Is it a curse for always making my enemy slip?

[What are you doing, Touya]

[Are you alright? Touya-dono]

I take Elsie's and Yae's hands and stand up. I really wish there was a totally unslippable shoes. If there is an inverse to Slip magic, will I not slip even if i walk on the ice?

Despite the current situation, Pola nimbly jumps down the ice hole as she descends. Naturally, she slipped, and rolled down in a funny way. That fellow, What is she doing?

We saw that, and continued the descent even more carefully. I nearly slipped several times, but somehow managed to reach the bottom without falling down.

[... Really, it is high]

Rin looks up and mutters to herself. There is a tall and wide cave inside the ice

hole with several icicles connect the ceiling and the ground. The inner part of the cave is dark, and we can't see what's there.

I let out [Light] first while Kohaku guides it. If it is him, he will probably notice by smell or by sound if there is anything there.

『Master. There is something up front. It looks seems to be the relic in question, but it looks like it will be a little problematic.....』

Hmm? Is the relic over there? Kohaku is really effective in the dark. He can already see it. But what does he mean by it being problematic?

I advanced carefully minding the steps, and I then understood what Kohaku meant. A big cylindrical black luster object is covered with an absurd amount of ice. What the hell is this? An eternal ice wall? The ice wall appeared inside the cave. The black cylindrical relic could be seen through the ice.

[It is creaking..... Do we have to smash that...?]

I tried firing Brunhild's bullets at the base of the ice, but it was easily repelled. No good. This is as hard as a Fureizu.

[Rin....can it be melted with magic?]

[Um, I can give it a try but.....]

The flame gushed out before Rin's hand like a flamethrower, but the ice didn't melt. What is the meaning of this?

[As I thought, it was useless. This ice isn't ordinary. It is Magical Ice]

[Magical?]

[It is an ice made by accumulating nature's magic. It won't break from half assed power. Even magic fire can't melt it easily]

Umm. I thought of using [Gravity] to break it, but it seems I may end up crushing the relic inside as well, while [Gate] will only transfer the ice. It is completely connected with rest of this place. After all this, is melting it the best option? No, If I melt it with high temperature, this cave itself would likely collapse. In that case, the only choice remaining is to break it.

[Umm, I wonder if there are any good ways?]

I try to touch the ice wall. It feels cold and chilly. The cold feeling probably weakened due to the effect of [Warming]. And if that's true, then it will have frozen the skin with the cold.

[Even though it is just right there]

[If only we could dig a tunnel to quickly reach it.....]

[Tunnel.....? Ah!]

It was just after Yumina mumbling that something flashed inside my head. I place magic power into my palm. That's right, like that, there was also that method, wasn't there?

[Modeling]

The ice in front of me distorted and the wall dented. The surrounding area

spread out and it became a completed tunnel.

It won't melt, and it won't break. In that case, transforming it will be fine, since removing it is not my goal. It is the as the time when I broke Baba-jiisan and the others out from the prison in Ishen.

I steadily transformed the magical ice, and advanced forward. Before long the frontal part of cylindrical object appeared inside the ice.

[Then, is this the transfer formation to Babylon? Or is it something else?]

[It is really big nee~]

As Rue said, the diameter of the cylindrical relic is 6-7 meters, and I think its height is 3 meters? It has a form of a tuna can. While transforming the ice with [Modeling] I tried to go around the relic, but there is no entrance anywhere. There is nothing resembling the gate, like in the desert, and upon touching, nothing that could allow us to go through appears.

Mm~? What is going on?

Suddenly, I recalled the tuna can shape and its surface from which the can is opened. It is at the top, isn't it?

I transform the ice into the stairs, and climb it while being careful not to slip down. I decided to have everybody wait below.

There was nothing at the top of the relic, with the exception of a small cavity with the diameter of a meter in its center. By any chance, is that it? When I cautiously stretch my leg, it slipped through. It seems like this is the entrance after all. Only someone with all attributes can pass through that mysterious

barrier.

[I found the entrance. I will try entering it right now. Everyone, please wait a little. Contact me through Kohaku if anything happens.]

After informing everyone below, I steel myself and hop on the top of the cavity. I smoothly pierce through the ceiling, and land inside. With a faint thin light, there is a transfer formation with six stone pillars. Is it Babylon relic after all?

I pour magic of each attribute into each respective stone pillar. When I finish pouring all of them, the transfer formation started to emit a faint light. I stand in its center, and finally pour the last non-attribute magic. I was then transferred along the brilliant dazzling light.

Chapter 112: [Alchemy Building], and the maidens qualities

The usual scenery of Babylon was spread in front of me. Beautiful trees and perfectly blue sky can be seen together with a green lush and thick lawn growing along the flowing canal. It seems I was safely transferred.

Now then, I will be happy if this is either the [Library] or the [Hanger]. Well, even the [Warehouse] is good, because I will be sure to include my gratitude and punishment for increasing the various troubles I received.

(TLC: rebellion case, ghost castle case, etc...)

After walking by the riverside, a building comes into view from between the trees. It's about 3 floors high with stained glass-like windows fitted into it, making it look like a church at first glance. Naturally, there is nothing that resembles a cross on the roof.

The walls are built with something that resembles bricks and is as red as a roof. Beside the house, a pagoda that looks like an octagonal pointed hat was extending.

[I am pretty sure it is a Babylon facility but.....]

[You are totally right~ Welcome to my [Alchemy building]]

When I turn around due the sudden greeting, there was a young girl standing with a pair of golden eyes, white skin and smooth pink hair that has one tail on the side.

Wearing a dark regular tunic, a large pink ribbon on the chest, a white skirt and black tights, she has clothes that are not that different from when I met Shizuka and the others. If there is a single main difference, would it be the bulge underneath the ribbon which is incomparable to the others? That is Cecil-san class right

[I am the management terminal for the [Alchemy Building] here, Bell Flora ~no. Please call me Flora ~no.]

If it is [Bell Flora] then I believe [Bell] is good though..... oh right Shizuka's full name was Francesca. Is that it? Was calling someone by the latter part of their name a custom of the ancient civilization?

(TLC: well, it is supposed to be 'Shesca' but it kinda doesn't lie on the tongue, so it was switched to similar sounding Shizuka)

But still, an [Alchemy building]? Again, it is different from what we are aiming for.

[Since you came here, that means you also have all the attributes same as the professor ~no. However, only the [Confirmed Person] can be granted authority over the [Alchemy Building]]

[I know. Just so you know, the [Sky Garden] and the [Workshop] managers have recognized me]

[[Garden] and [Workshop] you mean Shizuka and Rosetta ~no? Oh my, it has been 4907 years ~no. How nostalgic~]

Flora shows a joyful expression while placing both of her hands on her chest. Shake. They shook a little just now.

For my eyes to have flickered and faced that direction, I have no doubt she used a little magic. Right. I am sure of it. Quite powerful magic it is!

[I think that if the two people have acknowledged you as the [Confirmed Person], then you have enough qualification. But just in case, you will need to accept my judgement as well ~no]

Judgement? Come to think of it, both Shizuka and Rosetta also... wait, this flow of things is bad! However, when I thought about that, I was already too late as both of my hands were grasped by Flora firmly, and pushed against her pair of spheres.

munyou.

The soft sensation transmits through my palms. And yet, what is with this elasticity and springiness? Because of Flora sudden actions I reflexively pressed my fingers inside. It was inevitable and unavoidable! I even happened to massaged them by chance!



[An~ desu ~no.....]

When I looked at Flora who let out charming voice, I came back to my senses and released my hands. This fellow, what did she do!

[Wh...wh.....whah!?]

Oh no, I can't say anything. Calm down, settle down me!

[Ufufu. You passed! You would have been disqualified had you turned into a beast here ~no]

What's with that judgment! What this fellow did is reverse sexual harassment, isn't it!? I can't sue though!

And just like that Flora unfastened her chest ribbon and started undoing the buttons of her coat. Wai.... what are you doing!?

[Next is touching the skin directly ~no. And if you still don't turn into a beast.....]

Shaking. When they jumped out from the blouse, I doubted my eyes for a moment. Raw!?

I instinctively turned my eyes. Why... no-bra, why!?

[Hey ...put them back! I understand! Since I won't turn into a wild beast!]

[Is that so ~no? It is a bit of a waste, even though you could rub them as much

as you like.....]

[I am fine, thank you! Because I will not make it in time!]

Since it was just random words that came out of my mouth, I don't know what I meant by not making it in time. Or rather, I am really trembling! Damn it, I can hear that professor laughing! If I had a time machine, I would have definitely went back!!

[..... You can sandwich them you know ~no?]

[That's fine, put them back!]

I half misplaced my anger and shouted back. This fellow too contains a part of professor's personality after all. It is not decent!

[I recognize and confirmed that you are a suitable person. From now on this frame number 21, codename [Bell Flora], will be transferred to you ~no. Please take care me of me forever, Master]

Flora neatly fixed her chest and smiled radiantly. Haaa..... As I thought, my troubles increased once more. While I was thinking about it, my face was suddenly seized, and a kiss was forcibly snatched. Damn it! There was still this!

[Uguu!]

Similarly to the time with Shizuka and the rest, her tongue was inserted inside. Ua, I can't decline! Just why do these guys have so much strength?! After violating my mouth for a while, Flora separated her lips.

[Registration Complete. Master's genes have been memorized ~no. From now on the ownership of [Alchemy Building] is transferred to master ~no]

While being completely exhausted, I heard Flora's voice. This is it..... if man and woman switch roles, it would be absolutely ridiculous, right?

=====Scene Change=====

[The [Alchemy Building] is a facility that produces new things by combining different materials and magic~no. Though it is mainly used for medicine and food, it is possible to make composite materials here as well]

I was listening to Flora's description of the Alchemy building. Basically, you can think of it as something like the [Enchant] chief. In the past, I placed [Recovery] to the hot springs in [Silver Moon], but would it be like that?

[By the way, what kind of things can you make?]

[Something convenient like potions that cure wounds. Also, by combining the capability to produce lots of fruits while being plague-resistant, it is possible to make plants that have both of those characteristics as well, you know?]

Hohou? That can be used. Perhaps it could lead to Brunhild's agricultural revolution.

[It is also equipped with medical facilities so, it is possible to restore arms or legs as well ~no]

Is it biotechnology, or perhaps is it a facility related to life magic? Oh right,

things like sake or fermentation of something like soy sauce, natto, miso, yogurt is said to be similar to bio science in a different manner. When you say something like selective breeding, genetic modification comes to mind.

Don't tell me that something like a clone, or even a homunculus can be made?.... Just wait a minute. In the first place, Flora, who is in front of me right now, is what you call a cyborg. Perhaps these guys were created this way.....

Not good, let's not think about it too much.

[For example, are you capable of making a new fruit by cross-breeding an orange and an apple?]

[I can ~no. I can also make orange that taste like apple, and vice versa ~no. I can also make something that matches together the taste of the two, you know ~no.]

That's amazing. It is already something unrelated to genetics. Possibly, if we cross breed garlies with rice seeds, could we produce seeds of garlic rice? That facility is outrageous depending on how it is used..... Rather than calling it alchemy, it already is synthetic magic.

[Mostly, they are adjustments made with magic but, since it came from seeds, growing it will still depend on human's hands ~no. After that, the taste will also become different depending on how the crops grow]

Well, is it so? We will, after all, be bringing goods which do not yet exist in this world. We won't know whether it would properly grow or not unless we actually try to raise it. For this, perhaps I might need an experimental farm.

While listening to Flora's explanation, I set foot inside the alchemy building. Various cylindrical glass containers with different sizes are lined up on a wall. On the opposite wall, things like small drawers are lined up.

Something like a control panel is placed at the center, and beyond that is who knows how many big cylindrical glass cases. They are something similar to freezing capsules that appears on SF movies. Are they possibly be treatment capsules?

[Various chemicals are gathered in these shelves ~no. There are many medicines that the professor made ~no]

[Huh. She really did some decent research]

[Things like Love potions, Aphrodisiac drugs, Stimulants, Energy pills, Analeptics, Estrogenic agents, Libido supplements ~no. They are safe products with no side effects....]

[I was fool for admiring her!]

How much burst of lust does she have! Saying that they are safe, I guess she should have evaluated them! Nope, it is a medicine that a troubled person will be thankful to her for!

[The effect is tremendous, you know ~no!? So strong that you will feel like you are ascending to heaven. Though I have never tried it, but if master wishes to try it with me...]

[Because my life is precious in a lot of ways, I refuse!]

This is no joke! Is it really safe? That. I am getting suspicious. Well, it is fine since I am not going to use it. I will not use it, I think.

[Isn't there any normal medicine the professor made?]

[There is none ~no]

She said it flatly. Damn, this facility is no good. This is the embodiment of whirling desires! I wonder if it really is a good idea to bring here my important brides?.....

I left the alchemy building, and thought about it while being exposed to the wind. Well, I don't have any choice but to call them.....

=====Scene Change=====

[[Alchemy Building] don't you think it is a facility that can be used by Brunhild Dukedom?.....]

Rin mutters while sighing. It can't be helped even if you are discouraged by this. After summoning everyone, we heard toward Brunhild in order to link the [Alchemy building] with Babylon.

[Ano..... I, did i do something?]

[Ah~ don't mind]

Flora peeks this way and makes a troubled face. I will be troubled too if you are going to get depressed every time until we find [Library]. Across from the depressed Rin, everyone's eyes gather at Flora.

[And, are you the [Alchemy Building]'s manager-san?]

[Please call me Flora desu no~]

[Big.....!]

Other than Flora greeting both Yumina and Rue, they were glued to her two shaking white peaches.

[damn..... What's with this existence.....?]

[... I can't win. As expected.... I can't win against those.....]

The twin sisters are also shaking for some reason. The composed ones are only Yae and Rin. Yae's are close to Flora's, while Rin is being philosophical about this. Is this something that you have to worry this much? No. It is not like a man doesn't know why his eyes are drawn to those anyway. Even so, be it big or small, I don't think it matters that much. But definitely I surely think it draws one's eyes though.

[Does Touya-sama too prefer them big?]

Rue looks at me with a face that looks like she will cry. No no no, Flora being big is unrelated to my taste! Well, my eyes inadvertently turn toward there, but deep down inside, it is not something I care about.

[I-it is alright ~degozaru, Rue-dono and Yumina-dono will grow more later on. I was the same as the two of you when I was your age]

Yae's followup brought hope, and faced Yumina and Rue with sparkling eyes. But the looks of the two sisters, Elsie and Lindsey, sank even more in despair.

[..... And will they grow if you massage them?]

[Batsu....! There is no way such silly thing is possible!]

I excessively reacted to what Rin absent mindedly said. This fairy-san, what did she say!?

When I casually looked around, everyone besides Flora had red face and averted their eyes. Flora who saw that made an unpleasant and complacent smile. Eh?

[I had master rub them a little while ago ~no]

What unnecessary thing to say! Not saying anything would be good, that is~!!

Everyone besides Rin, turned their face toward here in a flash. And as if she is delivering the final blow to her enemies, Flora opened her mouth once more with an extremely happy smile.

[I also received Kiss as well]

Uaha! This fellow conscious of the crime! She is totally enjoying this situation! In the first place, I was the one who was kissed! The perverted professor's smile can be seen in Flora's floating smile.

[Touya-san, let's have a small talk]

Yumina turn here with smile but, her eyes are not laughing. Everyone else is pretty much the same. As I said it is a misunderstanding! I am innocent!

Afterwards, I was made to sit in a seiza for a long time, and from 5 of them, was preached in various ways. It is unjust. That's why I hate searching for Babylon..... Similar to giving encouragement, Pola gently tapped my dejected shoulders and it sank deeply in my heart.....



「どんな刑が決定するのかしらね」
「刑とか言つた」
「面白そうに状況の成り行きを見守つてゐるリンクが、
にやにやと人の悪い笑みを浮かべる。
正座する僕にポンポンと慰めるように
ボーラが肩を叩いてきた。

「未来透視した博士によると、
マスターは九人の奥方を娶つていた。
それでバビロンも九つに分けたりしたわけでした」

「正座した僕を残して、
みんなは部屋の隅へ移動し、
なにやら話し始めた。」

「バレた。バレてしまつた。」

「九人!?」

Chapter 113: Nurse Clothes, and the Holy Kingdom

With the arrival of the [Alchemy building] over the sky of Brunhild, it is docked with the [Garden] and the [Workshop]. Having come this far, it's size is almost the same as the small castle. There are almost no buildings though.

With Shizuka wearing maid clothes and Rosetta wearing work clothes, each was wearing their favorite attire. But the ones Flora selected were nurse clothes. Why did she choose these? No, since the [Alchemy Building] is also medical center, it may not necessarily be unrelated to it.

But I have feeling that the short pink nurse clothes with white stockings and garter belt might be going too far. She is like a cosplay nurse. To make it worse, isn't it just the chest that is too emphasized? Frankly, I am troubled where to look.



Illust. ねこたま。

Because she also possesses medical knowledge and skills to certain degree, I

had prepared a doctor's office inside the castle for the time being. If I am present, I can cure the patients with magic, but the office is an insurance for a worst case scenario.

For now, I will have the [Alchemy Building] produce new kinds of rice. By donating the rice seeds I brought from Ishen to make them epidemic resistant, I try to make sure it will be fruitful. For the time being, I will plant and raise those in the experimental rice field I made in the eastern part of the country. I hope it grows up well.

The highway street is being improved even though it is only a little bit. Since Naito-ossan is giving it his best, it feels quite pleasant.

Brunhild branch of [Silver Moon] has also been opened safely and travelers can now rest in the inn. Because of the bathhouse that heals the citizens' fatigue, it has become quite success. Mika-san hired new employees (most are ex-Takeda's ninja) as well, and it feels like she has fully devoted herself to the business.

[It seems that Brunhild development is proceeding quite favourably, tto...]

thok.

[Well, it is country that Touya-dono made. I didn't have to worry.....]

thok.

[Sorry, Your Majesty Beast King, this is Pon. N~to]

thok.

[ho-ho-ho. It is a tile that makes you jump and sing. Monarch, it is a hit.
Tanyao-pinfu-ipeko of 3900]

Ah~ His Majesty The Monarch of Rifurizu made a payment to His Majesty The Emperor of Regulus. Or rather what are they doing?

In the game room of Brunhild Castle, the rulers of various western countries naturally gathered around the mahjong table. But that doesn't include me. I am not among the ones surrounding the table.

[Ano, what is the gathering today for...?]

[N? Nothing in particular. we just wanted to play mahjong, that's all]

His majesty Belfast king answered without hesitation. Eh~ for such reason? To go as far as making me use [Gate] to welcome them..... I thought for a while it is something like a crisis management.

Jarajara, the tiles were dropped at the center of the table, and were then raised up automatically. Chaachaachaa, the kings skillfully took the tiles, and rushed to the next match. It reached the point where they became skilled at it..

[Oh, we are doing some slight information exchange though]

His majesty the Emperor discards a tile while laughing. It is nice they are on good terms so there is no need to worry about that. But it is problem if they neglect their government duties and only play mahjong.

[What about the exchange of information?]

[That's right. If we are talking about recent news, it would be about Ramisshu Holy Kingdom after all, right?]

His majesty The King of Belfast mutters while arranging his tiles. Ramisshu Holy Kingdom? Isn't it the country southeast of Regulus? It is also close to Misumido. It can be reached by crossing the Great River Gau. If one goes furthermore down (the river), It is possible to reach Belfast too.

[Is there something with that Ramisshu Holy Kingdom?]

[In the Holy Kingdom capital Isura, they say a vampire appeared]

[Vampire?]

Yet another fishy story appeared. No, wait a moment. Maybe it is only me who doesn't know. Is the [Vampire] possibly another race common in this world? I discreetly look at His Majesty The Beast King. There is a beast demi-human here after all.

[Rumors say the victims appear night after night. The corpses were found dried-up with the blood completely sucked out]

Scary. Is it a bizarre murder case?

[And the Vampire... It already reached to the point where the rumors say it might be caused by the vampire clan.]

The Monarch cuts his tiles while talking to me. The Vampire Clan. Apparently

'vampire' is not just a mere title, but it rather seems to be a specific race. If I remember correctly, there seems to be an aquatic clan in Misumido called the mermaid race. There surely are many races in this world.

[It is troublesome the incidents happened in Ramisshu. It is a country that believes in the god of light called Lars. Therefore, it is extremely hostile towards people who belong to the darkness. If one has an aptitude for darkness magic regardless of the attributes he has, he will be looked upon coldly]

The beast king cuts the tile with a bitter face. What's with that. I think that it has already passed the level of faith and turned into fanaticism.

[Who is the god of light Lars?]

[Eh? Ah, Does Touya-dono not know? In the stories about foundation of Ramisshu Holy Kingdom, approximately 1,000 years ago, the territory of Ramisshu was inhabited with magic beasts, dead spirits and demons. It is said a priest of light visited there and called the god of light Lars who purified that land. And then, the ones living there started worshiping the god of light. The teachings were spreaded in the region, and the Ramisshu kingdom was founded... or that is how the story goes.]

Belfast's king explained, but it made me puzzled. A god of light is it. Tentatively, I am also acquainted with two gods. Apart from the god of love, is that god the world's god-sama? It is different from his image though.

Furthermore, God-sama doesn't look like He would be involved too much with the surface world. That god-sama seems to be managing a lot of worlds, therefore I don't feel like he would also come and intervene in every single thing.

Even though I can try to ask him on the phone, everything is fine at the moment so there is nothing to worry about. As expected I feel shy to call him just like that. He is God-sama after all.

[It is difficult to associate with that country because everything is based on the doctrines. With everything being [In the name of Light and Justice], it only has formalities. Especially that pope.....]

[Ah~ I am also bad with her. That Pope keeps making fishy preachments. That granny is really strict.]

While smiling wryly, both the Beast King and the Emperor exchange a glance. Pope?

[Excuse me, what do you mean by Pope?]

[Ramisshu Holy Kingdom doesn't have a royal family or a heritage system. Instead, they choose the Pope from the highest ranked priests until he dies or he abdicates himself. And, the one with the highest rank in Ramisshu right now is Elias Orutora. A female pope. Certainly, since it was the 20th enthronement anniversary the other day, I believe she is already over 60...tto]

With a 'thuk' sound, Rifurisu Monarch discards a tile on the table.

[Monarch, that is Ron. Pinfu, 2 Dora. 3900]

[Again!?]

His Majesty The Rifurisu Monarch made payment to His Majesty The Regulus Emperor. After looking at this exchange, His majesty The Beast King looked at the sky.

[Ah~ and it was just a little bit more to complete a Chinitsu..... Your Majesty The Emperor, since a while ago you have been raising with only cheap hands, right?]

[This is also one way of winning. Even if I don't score big time at once, it will be fine if I win as a result]

The Emperor overturn the Beast King's complain. Well, that's also just one of Mahjong's real pleasures. It is also a pleasure to understand what is a person's way of thinking based on how he plays. Belfast king opens his mouth while dropping his tiles in the center of the table.

[Originally, the vampire class itself was referred to as a minor class of a demon family. Their existence in itself is not rare, but I think they understand what would happen if they do something in Ramisshu. It is very suspicious. I feel something unnatural is happening that it doesn't seem to make sense.]

Definitely, is it a suicide plan? But since it is still not yet settled, it is possible they could have successfully escaped. Umm, it is definitely a strange case.

[Well, unless the sparks come over here, I won't particularly mind their situation. Also, just because they are vampires doesn't mean the whole Vampire clan have committed a crime either. If they are oppressed only for being vampires, I will stand by their side as an ally.]

His majesty The Beast King folded his arms and breathed out. It seems there are still many countries that discriminate against beastmen.... I can't understand discrimination and criticism based on birth or race. I think it is biased justice concluding that a person is evil just because he is a person of darkness.

Ramisshu Holy Kingdom. I don't think I want to be too much involved with them. I believe in god, and I don't think there is anyone who is more grateful for him than me. But I am not very interested in religion.

In the end, only His Majesty The Rifurisu Monarch was defeated at mahjong, and The Regulus Emperor was at the top. The four kings promised another rematch next month, and returned to their own countries. Eh, this again the next month?

Arc 16: God is watching

Chapter 114: Spinning Top, and Crystal weapons

"Ah~ I lost again~!"

"Hei~ka! Me next! My turn!"

In a corner on the highway, the children's laughter can be heard. The opposing child picks up his small iron spinning top that has flown out. It is a toy I made recently for them to play with.

(TLC: well, there are 2 words for the spinning top used, here. First is コマ (Koma) and the second is ベーゴマ (Beigoma). While the first is generic term for spinning tops which used nowadays, the second one is more ancient form of it, made from iron and shells, almost flat, with images written on them. Since it is probably irrelevant which word is used, I guess it will stay with just 'Spinning Top' for both words and adding romaji to mention which word it is)

After I decided to teach them how to play with it, the children learned how to spin them in blink of an eye. On the battlefield made of a stretched cloth above a barrel, a fierce fight unfolded.

Naturally, it can be said that I am the strongest. Because of that, I don't know since when it became the children's goal to defeat me. By the way, I am still undefeated. Fuhaha! Don't make light of the arm trained by my grandpa.

"That's it for today. Hora, since I am going to give everyone a spinning top (beigoma), this will be the end for now"

"Really!?"

"whoopee!!"

"I, will become Heika's retainer when I grow up!"

To become a retainer just because you received one spinning top (beigoma), how cheap.

While I am seeing off the cheerful-looking children that are leaving, I see a familiar person standing.

It is a smiling gentleman with a body in good shape and a white mustache. But, his fox ears have quickly stretched from his head, and a thick, long tail is waving.

"If it isn't Alba-san? Since when were you here?"

"It is been long time. Touya-dono, No, His Majesty the King of Brunhild dukedom"

He is Alba-san, the trade merchant from Misumido, Olga-san and Alma father's, and our house knight Nicola-san's uncle.

"Well, for a king himself to be playing with children on the roadside like this, I stopped myself unconsciously and watched you. However....."

While laughing, Alba-san takes in his hand one spinning top (beigoma) from the play stand made of cloth layered on top of a barrel.

"This is also another toy that I have never seen before. Furthermore, it is simple to make. How about it? Can I sell this in my trading company as well?"

"It is fine. It is not like it is something I came up with, and there is no secret production technique. Ah, but if possible, lower its price so that it can be bought with the children's pocket money"

"A small profit is it? Ummm. In that case, it might not sell after buying it once, as far as it is concerned...."

Has he already calculated his profit and loss? It is as expected of a merchant. If it doesn't sell a lot with its low price, there won't be any profit. Unless one knows the merit of just making something, it won't have any meaning. Normally, you buy new one when it breaks. But this is a Spinning Top (Beigoma). It doesn't break so often. That's right, then.....

"A collection... Isn't it fine to use that characteristic if it makes it fun to collect them? For example, you can color them differently, or engrave them with different families crests, icons, or symbols of strength like dragon or knights. If you make different types of the same item, wouldn't you feel like collecting them?"

"I see! In this case everyone will want many pieces for himself! You will want to collect them... taking advantage of that part, no, that's good idea!"

Taking advantage of what? Somehow, it feels difficult to ask. It surely will become endless once a collector shows up. Well, if the children have one piece for them to play with, that will be enough. And since collectors tend to be adults, they will then have the money for it.

"This country is magnificent. It is overflowing with business opportunities, and yet there aren't many merchants who have noticed its value. Again, it's so wonderful!"

Uoo, his eyes became that of a merchant. It seems that Alba-san wants to start a branch of his company, "Strand Trading", in our country no matter what. Looks like his visit today is for its approval and for the preliminary inspection of the branch (location). Because "Strand Trading" is a trade business, it will become easy to obtain things from various foreign countries in the future. It will also be possible to request an export as well. Approving it have no disadvantages.

I called for Naito-ossan and Alba-san's nephew Nicola-san, and had them discuss some minor arrangements and the allocation of the branch office. Nicola-san was attached as some kind of bodyguard, but I guess it is also a consideration for him to be able to talk with his uncle about various things as well.

I decided to allow him to do as he pleased regarding the spinning top(beigoma). More or less, it seems he will give 10% of the sales to our country.

Afterwards, it was completely unexpected that the spinning top(beigoma) prototypes that I made would be traded with outrageous prices between aristocrats.

=====Scene Change=====

"Na~to, can this hardness be maintained using magical power? Just in case, I need to make a "Program" so that it will be able to take outside magical power for it to regenerate even if it breaks...."

These days, I have been making weapons from Fureizu crystals that I obtained.

You can say that this is an item where its durability is dependent on the amount of magic power. As the amount of magic power poured into it increases, its hardness also goes up. Additionally, it changes as far as its cutting power when it is turned into something with a cutting edge. It means that these kind of things were the Fureizu's sharp arms.

When I pour in a large amount of my magic, I raise the crystal's hardness. Using this magical power to increase the durability, cutting power and the regeneration ability of the crystal, I reproduced the abilities of the Fureizu.

"And that's why I made them. First, this Katana. It's name is [Transparent Flower]"

"How.....?"

Yae pulls a colorless and transparent blade from the white coated scabbard. It is a Blade that is transparent like an ice, a crystal or a glass. Taking in the light outside the "Workshop", it gives off glittering and brilliant light.

"Tentatively, I think there is almost no chance for magic exhaustion since it is made to automatically absorb magical power mainly from an outside source. In the event that the blade is already considered bad at cutting, I made it in such a way that it will return back to its original form if magic is poured into it"

By just placing the edge lightly on an iron mass that was prepared to try out the new sword, I was able to easily tear it like paper without pushing myself. This sharpness is scary.

"With this I can also cut and tear that Fureizu. Touya-dono, Thank you ~degozaru"

The sword "Transparent Flower" is stored in crystal scabbard which is also made from Fureizu fragments. As such, Yae delightfully smiles. If you say it like that, then making it is already worth it.

The other four in the opposite side pout their lips seeing Yae's happy smile.

"..... There is one for everyone too, so please stop making these faces"

First, for Rue who is using twin swords, I gave her 2 swords with the length of a kodachi. They are basically the same as Yae's "Transparent Flower".

For Yumina and Lindsey, even though they don't use direct weapons, I handed them crystal bullets made from Fureizu crystals. Upon shooting, it will surely drive the bullet like a wedge into the Fureizu at the moment of impact with the help of "Explosion" at the rear end of the bullet. Even without the effect of the "Explosion" itself, there will be no problem as long as it is used as a propelling agent for the bullet. I sharpened the pointed end so that it can drive in properly,

additionally increasing it with magic. I used fictional weapons as reference, particularly the “pile bunker” type wherein iron stakes are powerfully driven in using explosions.

Next is Elsie’s gauntlets. Hers is a weapon that surely makes the most use of the hardness. Plus, when I thought on how to concentrate the power in one point, I made a fiendish drill type attachment on the fists. In order to concentrate the power in a single point, sharp pointed tips are installed on both left and right gauntlets. I have a feeling anything can be destroyed if it is hit by them.....

I made it so it can slide to the back of the hand normally. And by sliding it to the front of the fist, it is arranged in a manner similar to what can be called a “crushing mode”.

“It is pretty much dangerous outside of combat. Therefore, don’t put it into that state.....”

GOGAAN~!!

As I was saying that, a stone garden inside the “Workshop” grounds was smashed. Ah, already! I understand you want to test it, but Rosetta will cry if she sees this.

“Isn’t it Amazing. It is easier to smash than usual”

“That because it was made to do that.....Aa~ah” “TL: sigh”

While I was looking at the broken stone garden and thinking of an excuse for Rosetta, I continuously heard sounds of trees falling on the opposite side.

“It has incredible sharpness”

“Amazing! I cut a thick tree like it is a big radish!”

Yae and Rue delightfully hold their katana and twin swords. But looking at the two gigantic trees that fell, I realize that I can no longer make any excuses. I will quietly get scolded..... Rosetta, I’m sorry. It is funny, why did this happen?

As I was expecting, I stopped both Yumina and Lindsey since they also started loading crystal bullets into their guns. I can’t let them increase the damage any further. My brides have many armed battle factions. Good grief.

After testing the performance of the weapons, when we went back to the castle, Lapis-san rushed over to us in a confused state. Did something happen?

"Danna-sa... no, Your Majesty. A messenger from a foreign country arrived. Change into formal attire quickly and head to Kousaka-sama's place"

Eh? A messenger from a foreign country? I was curious as to what it is since this is the first time for that sort of thing. I wonder from which country they came from?

Chapter 115: Holy Kingdom messenger, and Descending

Well, our Brunhild dukedom is gradually putting the appearance of a country after all. And after that, our next agenda is conducting diplomacy. Unfortunately there were no preparations for this. Brunhild dukedom is surrounded by Regulus to the east, and Belfast to the west. What I mean is that, if we are on good terms with those two countries, then there won't be any direct aggression.

Nevertheless, I don't say it is fine to not get along with other countries. Each country has their own circumstances, and being harassed in a roundabout way is nothing to be laugh at.

However, up until now, I can only say that there was no other company for this small country that was made just recently. Since the western alliance countries know me very well, a mutual exchange exist. But if a messenger comes from a country that I am not associated with at all, honestly, I am a little panicked.

"It is my pleasure to meet you for the first time, your majesty, King of Brunhild Dukedom. I came with an errand for the Pope of Ramisshu Holy Kingdom, Elias Orutora. The name is Nest Leonard"

"Similarly, I am Phyllis Rugitto ~degozaimasu"

"N~"

I sit down on the throne prepared for an audience and answer briefly. Kousaka-san, a former part of the Takeda Four Heavenly Kings, is waiting beside and glances towards me.

I understand. Don't talk too much. It should be fine to entrust the correspondence to Kousaka-san, right?

At any time, we don't know the aim of the other party. Rather than saying anything unnecessary, being silent seems to be a good plan. Eloquence is silver, Silence is gold. Is it that kind of thing? It also seems that I am not a guy that is very majestic. It is consideration for my lack of experience as well.

"For the polite greeting, we are greatly obliged. Then, what kind of business that specifically made you come from Ramisshu Holy Kingdom to our country?"

While standing beside me, Kousaka-san opened his mouth. Nest-san who is waiting in front of me in the audience room, is wearing a white robe with sleeves embroidered with gold thread. He is an ossan with short blond hair. At a glance, he looks like Shinto priest. It is most likely, but, does his age exceed 40 years?Though I get a strange feeling from his hair.

Likewise waiting next to him is Phyllis. She is a girl with a light purple bob cut hair and a quiet atmosphere. Is her age approximately the same as me? She wears a white robe same as with Nest-san.

It seems both people have priests as their status in Ramisshu Holy Kingdom. The God of Light... Lars, was it? If they are priests who follow that Lars faith, then the other party already holds power at some level.

That priest, Nest-san opens his mouth.

"Our Holy Kingdom Pope, Elias Orutora would like to form a deep friendship with Brunhild Dukedom. And in regards to that, in order to widely propagate our Lars faith in this territory, please somehow acknowledge Lars faith as state religion. As such, our Ramisshu will aid dukedom without sparing anything as sister countries"

.....Ha?

A state religion, is it that? Recognized by nation, and said to be protected by laws.

"His majesty will be baptized as well. Also, we would like to be allowed to construct a church in this land. If the teachings of Lars-sama are spread, this area will develop more abundantly, don't you agree?"

Really. Nest-san is the one making it a wonderful proposal, but my mood keeps on cooling down. What is this guy saying? Why do I have to receive the baptism of the god that I don't know anything about for no reason.

"Our god, Lars-sama teaches to get rid of evil, under the name of light and justice....."

"It is unnecessary"

".....eh?"

My words perfectly froze the fervent speech that Nest-san was doing.

"Unnecessary, what do you mean?"

"Like I said, Religion. It is something that is unnecessary for our country"

He gave a long speech, but ultimately it was an invitation of religion, right? Honestly, it's suspicious, isn't it? Is there a god of light? Does that guy really exist?

"You are saying our god's teachings aren't necessary? Doesn't His Majesty believe in god?"

"Do not say foolish things. There is no human who believes in god more than me. I am grateful to him every day"

I retort at Nest-san who is scowling at me. He (god) is different from your god though. Shall I respond with these words? Phyllis who has been following Nest-san opens her mouth. It doesn't look like she is angry towards me. She is having a strange look on her face.

"Then why? Why are you saying you believe in god, when you are not spreading his teaching. Isn't it a contradiction?"

"Because there is none. In the first place the one you are calling a god is only the god of light Lars, isn't it? If he is light, then what about the god of darkness? Aren't there any other gods?"

I answers Phyllis question with another question. In contrast with that, Nest-san answers while puffing his chest with pride.

"God of Sea, God of Mountain, God of earth, there are various other gods. However, the supreme god who surely stands above all other gods, is the God of light Lars-sama. Even the God of darkness can't stand a chance against the absolute god of justice"

"No, through comparatively, such power doesn't seems to exist either"

"What!?"

Nest-san is already not just scowling, he has raised his voice and has stood up, no longer seemingly trying to hide his anger. Well, of course he will get angry.

"Is Your Majesty saying that our god is incompetent!?"

"God of absolute justice, right? Despite that, why are there criminals and bad people in this world?"

"T-that... We are here for that reason! To judge the evil and extinguish it, on behalf of god. We are the ones carrying that responsibility on our shoulders! To become god's hands and legs....."

"That is your own power. It is not god's power. Do not get wrong there"

With deep red face Nest-san shacked his shoulders. Did I go too far? But I don't think so?

"Then say, what will the god whom Your Majesty believes in bring to us!"

"Nothing. After all, he is a very busy person. It is about doing something about your own circumstances by yourself. He doesn't seem to intervene unless there is something great. Just you know, it is not like I am denying your guys teachings. Isn't it fine if it is what you guys believe in"

There is a different god in each one's heart. Isn't that fine. But, it is just being utilized by involving the country this time.

Nest-san glares at me with a hateful look, and open his mouth.

".....It looks like Your Majesty is possessed by the evil god. It seems baptism purification is necessary"

"Ha?"

What did he say just now?

"Kohaku. Hold down that fellow"

『As your will』

"uwaaa!?"

Nest is attacked from behind by Kohaku whom I called, and has his back being held down by Kohaku's forefoot. He is in his original Byakko mode.

I walk in front of the pinned down Nest, and squat down to eye level of the old man who is scared because of Kohaku.

"What god you believe in is up to you. You can do as you like even if it is wishing or praying for an unknown god that may or may not exist. However, I will not permit you to treat my god as an evil god. Someone who doesn't know anything about that guy cannot say anything about him as much as that

someone likes"

I glare at Nest, open "Gate" on the floor, and let him fall in the middle of the river outside the castle. After the old man disappeared, only his blonde hair remained. It was a wig after all.

Casually, when I looked sideways, Phyllis, who was left behind, was surprised so much she didn't make any sound. Oh.

That's bad. I overdid it. Even as a joke, he is a messenger of a foreign country. There were other ways to send him away, but because he spoke ill of god, I got unconsciously angry. Was there any reason to call that nice old man an evil god?

Nonetheless, have I still overdone it.....? When I turned around, Kousaka-san was grasping his forehead and breathing a long sigh. Ah~..... was it bad after all? And he even told me not to speak as much as possible.

"ano.....priest Nest....."

"Ah~..... I have transferred him out of the castle. It is alright, I haven't done anything like injuring him"

Though I think he got completely soaked. Perhaps he may catch like cold. I am not really concerned though.

"I am really sorry for our rudeness this time. Please forgive us. To begin with, the audience today is something priest Nest strongly pushed for, and the Pope-sama wasn't that interested at all"

Phyllis lowered her head. That's so?

"If it's possible to set Lars faith as this country's state religion, then there is no other credit higher than that. Probably that is what priest Nest aimed for"

Why? In the end, is he after a promotion? Even if he is called priest, snobbery doesn't come off.

"In any case, our country doesn't intend to decide on a state religion. Tell that to the Pope"

"Yes, I already got that. But, ano..... it is about the talk just now..... Is it possible that Your Majesty has met god?"

Ouh? I shouldn't have said such a thing during the conversation earlier. Did she notice something from the talk? Mmmm, what would be a good answer for this one?

"Excuse me. For saying strange thing I... whether there really is a god, I am already not sure anymore....."

Phyllis looks down in shame while whispering. Isn't it bad saying such thing? More or less, you are a priest-sama.

"I've been wondering for long time. I think judging evil under the name of justice is splendid. But on the other hand, labeling a demonkin and people with dark attribute as evil... Is that really all right?? Will the person who has made a mistake once not be forgiven anymore? Such questions appear one after another....."

It is not like I don't get it. But being at the stage when she doubts the god she believes in, can this girl no longer act as a priest?

At that time, the smartphone on silent mode inside my pocket vibrates. A call is incoming. Eh? With this timing? I can tell who is it without even the need to look at the incoming name since there is only one person who can call me.

I take out the smartphone and answer the call.

"Hello?"

"O~, it has been long time. It is me, me"

Is this the "me-me" scam? Introduce yourself properly, god. However, he made the call as if it was his intention.

"Did you happen to see it?"

"Just by chance. Iya, I saw you speaking sharply and it felt good. Thank you for feeling angry for my sake"

Uah~ I was seen. Isn't it kinda embarrassing? While she is watching me writhing in shame, Phyllis call out to me timidly.

"ano.....Who you are talking to?"

"god"

"Eh!?"

While looking at the surprised Phyllis, suddenly, I noticed the strange state of Kohaku next to me. He is not making any slight movement at all. Ha? Why? When I turned around, even Kousaka-san stopped moving. What is with that?

"Ah~ I stopped the time for a little while. It will be troublesome if I am seen by other people"

"You stopped the time!? Eh, rather, saying about being seen, don't tell me.....!"

"I thought that I should answer the doubts of that young lady. I will go there now. Afterall, she may not trust me if she doesn't meet me. Well then"

"wai.....!"

He hung up. Eh, seriously? When I put the smartphone away from my ear, my eyes met with Phyllis.

"He said he will be coming....."

"Coming..... who?"

"Like I said..... god"

Above our astonished heads, god descended wrapped in a shining dazzling light. Being wrapped in divine (It is normal since he is god) aura, I understood what it is just by seeing it. god slowly descended, and landed straight without any change on the ground.

"Yaa, I am god"

"That simple~!?"

Can't you use words that are a little more dignified!? I instinctively made a tsukkomi towards god who is making friendly smile.

Chapter 116: God, and intervention

Phyllis was simply trembling just by looking at the smiling old man standing in front of her. Ultimately, could she no longer stand? She bowed down while clinging to her knees.

"What's wrong? Do you feel sick?"

"god, god"

Because it seems he doesn't understand I call out to him.

"This intimidating force or rather this divinity, can you do something about it? It is hard to look straight at you even for me"

"Eh? Really? Well, this really is the earth, isn't it? Here. Sorry, I was somewhat careless. Whenever I am here, energy leaks out of me if I am not aware of it."

Soon, the golden aura god was projecting disappeared gently. And at the same time, the overpowering intimidating feeling from before vanished. As expected from the one and only god.

"It should all right with this ~jaro. Miss, are you okay?"

"Y-yes....."

Even so, it seems that all Phyllis could do is raise her face. It is understandable. If she is shown something like that, she won't have any choice but to admit that this person is a genuine god. I think the question "Does the god exist?" that Phyllis asked was answered. God exists.

"Let's not talk here. Is there any convenient room somewhere?"

"Eh? Ah~ then shall we go to the reception room?"

I open "Gate" and connect it to the reception room. I lent my shoulder to Phyllis who seems to have troubles standing, and had the two people sit down on couch. I thought of arranging some tea for them, but when I went to boiler room both Cecil-san and Rene had been stopped while they were laughing. Reluctantly I poured some tea myself in the pot, three cups, and returned to the reception room with some tea cakes.

The two people were still facing each other the same as when I left them. god

was looking restlessly around the room, and Phyllis was still frozen like clapboard, her eyes were swimming around.

I pour tea in the cups, and line up the tea cakes. god sips from the cup, and at the same time when he finished the one sip I spoke.

"I have just one question"

"Heave-ho, what is it ~ja ne?"

After he has placed the cup on the table, god turns his face to me.

"Does the god of light Lars exist?"

"He doesn't. Honestly, I haven't even heard of him. Among all intermediate level gods and even within junior level gods, that name doesn't exist"

Wow, so resolute. Phyllis next to me has a face like she has received a shock. Of course she would, right? Because you are told that the god whom you have believed in doesn't exist.

"Then does a god of light exist?"

"That also doesn't exist. Well, if I am compelled to say, than it would be me ~ja. Since I am the world god ~ja. But the god of darkness does exist, there is also god of fire and wind too. In the first place what humans expect "god of ?" is a standard low class god ~ja"

Does that mean that the God of love is a low class god? But after considering everything, she was over-familiar with god who is the world god. I wonder if that's how it is in the god's world?

"T-then, 1000 years ago, who was the god of Light Lars-sama that the priest of light Ramirez-sama summoned?"

Priest of Light Ramirez? Oh, was he the founder of Ramisshu holy kingdom? Wasn't he the person who borrowed the power of the god of light and purified the land.

"You're saying he summoned a god? Even if a human is capable of summoning a god, it is still very rare ~ja. But because there are also gods who descend on a whim, so I won't say that there are none"

You not the one to say that. You descended entirely on a whim.

"According to the story, I don't think it was a god. Wouldn't it be closer to spirit? I guess if it was the spirit of light it is also possible to summon it. ~ja"
"So vague. Can't we just somehow go back to the past or something and see it?"

"It is not impossible but..... it is troublesome, you see ~ja? Though mainly it is for myself. If I tell you in terms from where you originally came, consider this. Even though it's easy to pause the streaming of a television program when doing a recording, can I find the commercially streamed segment of a late night program from one year ago within the mountain of the past DVDs without indexing?"

It's a difficult example to understand! Though I somehow understood it! I get that it is terribly troublesome.

"In that case..... what on earth are our teachings.....?"

Being completely denied by god, Phyllis got depressed. It is understandable though since what she was believing in had completely collapsed. But.....

"Is it no good for you guys without god? Can't you move forward on your own believes, purposes, and responsibilities? I don't mind if you make a god as an emotional support. Parents and siblings, lover and master, you should trust in them so that they would trust you. However, you mustn't be dependent. Gods will do nothing. Only you guys can save yourselves. You guys have power that can create miracles and move the world. We will only watch over that."

Though I also think that god does interfere quite a lot, it is not as thorough as what they say, right?

But, I will keep silent. As some people say, some things are better left unsaid. Phyllis next to me is crying out wholeheartedly. It is not exactly the mood to meddle in.

"Well, even though I said that, I decided in the end against leaving this place in its current state. If Touya-kun wasn't sent here, I also might have not peeped in for another 10,000 years or so"

Ua~! You have ruined it, you know! What's with "We will only watch over that"! You are not watching! You are neglecting it, aren't you! Besides, there might be a lot of different worlds to manage!

"Is it fine with this.....?"

"Mmmm, it may sound cruel, but that is the responsibility of the people living here even if this world falls into ruin. Basically, the gods will not do anything. Well, of course we will respond if the crisis that will lead to a downfall is caused by the intervention of gods like a descent of an evil god."

Though for me, I wouldn't want such descent to happen. This is somewhat carefree. Or rather, isn't it that the said rule is easily contradicted?

"Ma, basically I want the people of this world to deal with the world's problems in some way or another ~ja. Even if the demon king appeared and started something within the lines of world domination, we wouldn't involve ourselves as long as that demon king was a resident of this world. We might at most bestow things like weapons to defeat the demon king. After all, I hate a world where the people suffer."

I see. Does that way also exist even if it is not a direct intervention? However, that's sufficient. It is comparable to lending a hand. The god will not intervene even if the world collapses. Yet they will still give something like a super weapon capable of defeating the demon king even if they said that they won't intervene. What's with that half-baked overprotection?

"I guess it can't be helped even if one depends on his or her parents forever ~ja. The humans of this world are no longer children. You should be able to walk and think by yourselves. Then, you will naturally clear the hardships and ordeals you come across to. The gods will watch over you. Occasionally"

Occasionally? That was unnecessary. Well, someone is surely being watched around the clock though.

"What should I do from now on?..... The god of light Lars doesn't exist. Those teachings were artificially created by someone. Doesn't that make all of our actions meaningless? Does it?"

"They are not meaningless. That is if there is someone who is saved by those teachings. From now on, instead of doing it "For God", you ought to do it "For people" without being tied up by teachings"

".....yes"

It may be impossible to change ideas immediately though. It is pretty much

akin to a basis of life that you came to believe in all this time. But, it will be good if you are liberated from this curse little by little.

"Well, it is about time for me to leave ~no? It may also be inappropriate to keep the time suspended too much"

In the meantime, everyone returned to the audience because might be strange if we weren't there the moment time started moving again.

Both Kohaku and Kousaka-san are still hardened as before. If it weren't for the current circumstances, I would have at least done a prank on them, but let's not do that.

"Then. Live strongly and be healthy young lady"

god then became grains of light and disappeared while smiling radiantly.

After a few moments, Kohaku and the rest started to move while facing towards here with confused looks. Since my location was slightly different from before time was stopped, did it look like as if I moved instantly?

"..... It was like a dream. Was he really here until a while ago.....?"

"It is reality. You met god. What would you do without believing it?"

"It's the reality. You met god. Would you believe it without seeing him?"

"..... You are right"

Her smile was peaceful. From a while ago, I felt a different intention from the light in her eyes. Was she able to sort everything inside herself?

After that, she apologized for the short account and left the audience room.

And thus ended my first diplomacy. But after that, I was heavily reprimanded by Kousaka-san. Oh well, I admit that I belong under the class of the worst diplomats.

Because I was a little worried, I had Tsubaki-san dispatch one of the ninja's to Ramisshu. For the communication, I entrusted him a small bird as summoned beast and told him to contact me if something happened.

Several days later, I was told that a priest of Ramisshu Holy Kingdom, Phyllis Rigitto, was stripped of her position. And for the crime of treason, her execution was announced.

Chapter 117: The Female Pope, and the denial of god

Are you saying that something that foolish happened? Why must Phyllis be executed. That girl was able to finally move based on what she thinks, yet this happens.

《And when is the day of execution?》

《Ha. It is said that the execution will take place three days later in the early morning. It didn't happen immediately because apparently there was a group that appealed to stop the execution》

I received a telepathic communication from person whom I entrusted with the small bird familiar and infiltrated Ramisshu. Are you saying there are some friends that support Phyllis too? I am glad that the execution didn't occur immediately.

《Thank you. Continue investigating, and contact me if something happens》

《Ha!》

I cut off the telepathic communication. Now then, what should I do? Naturally, I can't abandon her. I am also responsible for things to turn this way for Phyllis.

"Good grief, that's why religion is so troublesome. It is simply because they(tlc: people of faith) are convinced that they are always right"

While resting her elbows on the balcony table, Elsie didn't try to hide her anger. Just in case, I have told everyone about Phyllis. I did omit the meeting we had with god though. I said that she changed her faith by my persuasion. Or rather, she seemed to reflect on it after reconsidering it.

"...And what you will do?"

"I will directly go there and make them stop the execution"

I answered Lindsey question with a short remark. You see, I am tentatively the king of a whole country after all. They shouldn't be able to disregard me. I will negotiate with the Pope. I don't think it will be problem even if the life of a "former" priest is spared.

"And if they still won't stop, what are you going to do ~degozaru?"

"Mmm, I will destroy the prison and abduct Phyllis, I guess?"

"It will become an international problem! Do you know that!?"

It may just be Yumina said, but I will consider that as a final resort. In reality, it seems that we will still be able to make a living even if we don't rely on that country.

At first, I held back a little because I thought that the god of light Lars existed. But that's until I asked god. It is a different story now that I know that this god doesn't exist. It will still depend on their attitude, but there is no more reason to hesitate. It will still be wonderful even if diplomatic relations break up since I don't need to force myself to associate with them.

I turn my eyes to Kousaka-san who is waiting by my side.

"On the other hand, will there be any problems if I am hated by that country?"

"Well, currently, there is none. But they may send believers to harass us though"

That by itself will be troublesome. Rather, is it acceptable for believers of a god who professes himself as light and justice to do such atrocities?

"They may be thinking that if it is for justice, anything is permitted. After all, it is quite a useful phrase"

Rue mutters while having a disgusted look. That's remind me, someone said before that wars never end because this world is filled with allies of justice!

"In any case, I also can't leave her alone. I will go out for a little while"

"Then we also....."

"No. This time, I will go by myself. If there are too many of us going there, we don't know what they would do"

Just in case, only Kohaku was decided to come along. I was told that my crisis management, considering my position as a king, is lacking or something. But honestly, it is easier to protect only one rather than protecting a lot since I don't know if anything will happen.

Now then, how will the other side turn up?

"What? You are the king of Brunhild Dukedom? Get out of here quickly because I don't have time to keep up with idiots!"

I came to Ramisshu Holy Kingdom's capital using Babylon, and I got turned away at the door right in front of the Isura Great Sanctuary.

Oh well. It is not surprising since I also don't have evidence.

"Listen, I have something to discuss with the Pope so just call her or any bigwig"

"Bastard! You dare calling Pope-sama without honorific!"

"Are you still going to say that even if I am not a believer nor a citizen of this country?"

I planned to speak politely, but the knight in front of the gate got angry, and pulled out his sword. OiOi, are you suddenly doing that!?

I dodged the incoming swing, and knocked down my prey with a hand chop just like that. With the falling sword making a GARAAN sound, the knights inside the Sanctuary also started coming out in groups.

"What happened!?"

"Intruder! A villain insulted the Pope-sama, and pretended to be Brunhild Dukedom King!"

"WHAT!?"

I was surrounded in a blink of an eye. 2, 4, 6, hi..... nearly 20 persons. It became a many against one situation. Doesn't this stink of unfairness for the believers of the god of justice? Ah, So you can attack a mysterious man with a group simply because you are champions of justice. Is that the theory?

"I will say it one more time, the King of Brunhild Dukedom requests a meeting with the Pope of Ramisshu. Will you not guide me?"

"Are you still saying that!?"

The knight brandished his sword and I shot him, who started attacking me, with a paralysis bullet without hesitation. Looking at how abruptly the knight

fell, the other knights flinched for a moment. But even so they raised war cries and confronted me. Holding the sword gun Brunhild made of mithril in my right hand, and the sword gun Brunhild made of the material from the black dragon's horn in my left hand, I kept shooting the attacking knights.

I finished everyone without taking as much as one minute. You can at least hear the person's story, you know.

『This group is troublesome』

"Indeed"

I unintentionally nod to what Kohaku said, who was restlessly walking behind. But what should I do now? I will be illegally trespassing if this goes on....ah.

I cast "Recovery" on one of the fallen knights, and removed the paralysis.

"There should be a priest called Nest or something in here. Go call that person. If he doesn't want to, tell him that I will expose the secret of his head"

If it is that bald priest, he knows me. Even if it is insufficient, he will entertain me, I guess.

Although the knight was frightened, he disappeared into the interior of the sanctuary. A short while later, the priest Nest appeared together with guys appearing in groups covered with full body white armor, similar to the Templars. Ah~ he got new wig.

"This..... Your Majesty Brunhild Dukedom King!? Why you are in this place!? No, leaving that aside, what are your intentions?!"

"I have come to have a talk with the Pope. I only fought back because these guys suddenly started attacking me. They don't listen to people stories that much."

I point at the fallen knights and explain to priest Nest.

"Don't you understand what you did? You have beaten down the soldiers of another country. Are you trying to forcibly invade the sanctuary? It will be an international problem"

"Won't it be an international problem if you point your swords against another country's king and suddenly attack him? You do understand this, right?"

I glare back at the scowling Nest. How troublesome. This guy absolutely hates me. Well, I don't intend to be liked by him either. This is fine, so just guide me already.

"What is going on?"

A man in the prime of his life wearing a gorgeous robe appeared from inside the sanctuary. He has a smoothly swept back hair while wearing a small mustache. He is like a dictator from somewhere. This one seems taller though.

"Cardinal Zeon....."

Priest Nest looks back and grumbles. Cardinal? Umm, there are certainly some people next in rank to the Pope if I am not wrong. Is this person's standing that grand?

"Priest Nest, who is this person. It is quite unpleasant to cause an uproar on this holy Sanctuary."

Clicking his tongue, the Cardinal turns his eyes on Priest Nest. Oya Oya, what a high attitude.

"T-this person, no, this gentleman is his majesty the King of Brunhild Dukedom. He desires to request a meeting with her Eminence the Pope"

"What.....!?"

After widely opening his eyes and looking at me, he scrutinizingly observes me in order to make an evaluation. I wonder why. Was I expected to arrive in a more authentic attire and not in casual wear? Next time I should have Zanakku-san prepare one. In any society, there really are way too many guys that judge someone based on appearance.

"Are you his majesty the King of Brunhild Dukedom?"

"That's right."

"A king of a country, what would your personal business be with our Eminence the Pope? I could inquire for you if that's fine with you"

"I would like to talk directly to her Eminence the Pope. Can I request you to show me the way?"

We smile to each other while meeting the eyes of the cardinal. But we are

trying to probe each other intentions. There is no way for me to trust this guy. Even if I asked here to stop Phyllis execution, I am doubtful whether those words would really reach the Pope as one would expect.

"..... This way"

I enter the sanctuary per the Cardinal's invitation. My surroundings are being tightly fortified by the Templars, and I am made to wait in a guided chamber. I sat down quietly on a chair while receiving at the same time the scowling eyes of the Templars. So far, this is away from home.

I don't think they would dare to attack me here too, but it is better to be cautious just in case.

A short time later, the Cardinal came to the room to pick me up.

"Her Eminence the Pope wants to meet you. Please, this way"

I am once again taken along by the Cardinal, and we proceed through the Sanctuary corridor. It is a pointlessly huge sanctuary. Before long, we ascended the long staircase, opened the luxurious door that was decorated with gold hemming, and moved into a large hall.

There are people wearing robes similar to Cardinal Zeon and people wearing priest robes along the left wall, while the templars are lined up in rows along the right wall. A sharped eyed old woman dressed in a pure white robe is sitting on a highly raised place up front, while adorning a long large hat. So is this woman the Pope, Elias Orutora?

"Welcome, to our Sanctuary, Your Majesty King of Brunhild Dukedom. I am the Pope, Elias Orutora ~degozaimasu."

"Nice to meet you, Your Eminence the Pope. Please forgive me for such a visit."

I say that and lower my head. I am not at fault here, but it is fact I have knocked down their knights.

"..... There are a lot of things I would like to say, but first let's hear the reason for your visit. For what reason did you have to come to our Sanctuary?"

"I wish you to stop the execution of Phyllis Rigitto, a priest that is in here"

The hall got noisy with people chattering when I said her name. After the

pope gave a side glance, she piercingly glared at me.

"This is a strange inquiry. To interfere with the punishment of a criminal of another county, I can hardly think of it as an action for a king of a certain country"

".....A criminal? To what crime is she guilty of?"

"That is advocating that the Supreme god, Lars-sama, is a fake god. This is a betrayal not permitted even for a priest. Also included there is the suspicion of a vampire who attacked the people again. The evil soul of a person of darkness must be purified"

Ha? Phyllis is the vampire? What is the meaning of this? Even though she is a vampire, she hid that fact and became a priest?

《Master, do not be deceived. That girl definitely is a human being. I can tell that much from her smell only》

Kohaku sent a telepathic communication. As expected of Kohaku. However, this is somewhat suspicious. It looks like a made up story that seems totally convenient.

"You know, this story is strange. If she was a vampire, is there a reason why you couldn't see through her till now with this so called power of god?"

"..... Lars-sama will never forgive evil. The divine punishment will fall for sure like this time"

Some divine punishment this is. Isn't this just a convenient way to shut someone up? For some reason, I am suspecting that this granny may know that god Lars doesn't exist.

"Weren't there unexpectedly a lot of victims? If the divine punishment was delivered quickly, those people wouldn't have suffered, would they?"

"The victims probably piled up some crimes too. If they had been devout believers, they would have been definitely saved"

This is becoming absurd. Is there no evidence and only underhanded reasons?

"..... Then is there no way for you to stop the execution of Phyllis?"

"Only when evil is judged will the soul be purified. This in itself will be that person's salvation."

.....Huh. It became even more absurd. Not believing in god is evil. Convenient matters are graces of god and anything inconvenient is because of impiety. With this it is possible to legally take one person's life. To say nothing else, I am disgusted.

"This sounds stupid. You people are the one's beyond saving."
"W.....!"

My surroundings froze because of my words. Even the pope is staring with a surprised look. It is about time to stop playing ignorant already. Since we can't come to an understanding, I will do things my way by my own means.

"This I declare. The god of light Lars doesn't exist. It is a fake god that was entirely made up, and Phyllis became aware of that only recently. You are all free to believe on whatever god you want, but stop labeling a person who doesn't believe in your god as evil. Don't think of yourselves as the only special ones!"

"You bastard! Are you mocking our god!?"

All the Templars to the right side reached out to their swords at same time.

"My bad. Then go and bring this Lars here. I will kneel on the ground and apologize."

That is if you can bring him.

"I deny the god you guys believe in. I deny this god's teachings that names himself as justice yet allows the killing of an innocent maiden. I will say it again. The god you guys believe in doesn't exist"

Chapter 118: Prison, and the truth

In the first place this religion is suspicious. It has been existing for more than 1000 years and yet it hardly spread outside its home country. This world is different from our world because there is magic. But even if magic makes the "God's miracles" seem typical, why is the rate that this religion spreads so low?

If by chance I could use healing magic in my old world, I would immediately be the founder of a new religion. Though there might be fellows that would call me a fraud, it would still be true that I cured injuries, so the person in question at least would still believe me. In here however, I will only be thanked and my actions won't be regarded as a "Miracle of God" because it is be magic and magic in here is considered as something ordinary.

Even if they said that it is religion, wouldn't countries have no way but to accept it if it was naturally strengthened in its surroundings? Besides, this is not about believing in god or not. This is more like mind-control.

In reality, there is no other state that has an alliance with this country. Is there something that is only present in this country, or rather, this plot of land?

No matter how much I think about it, is it useless to only think and compare it with the religions and common sense from my old world? Considering all of this, I should be doubtful whether this world is even round like earth.

Unlike the religions from our world, it feels kinda crooked. I can't feel that much for something like saving a person or for the sake of having a peace of mind. I feel that anything hostile shouldn't be allowed.

I understood this very well after coming to this country. There is absolutely some sort of opposite side to this county.

"I purposely got caught because this is what I thought"
『Ha.....』

I explained the reason to Kohaku who looked doubtful while we are inside the underground prison. It is really the truth. True, even if I really rampaged there, wouldn't that one-sidedly make me a bad guy? I was certain I would get some

evidence if I am caught. Well, I can't deny that I have done it forcefully.

『Then, what do you intend to do now?』

"..... What do you think should be good to do?"

Kohaku eyes became more and more doubtful. I got it, I am joking.

"I guess Phyllis safety come first for now. Right? After that, we are going to gather information. So we have to get out now."

The dim underground prison is about six tatami mats. It is a sturdy prison made of stone walls and pavements. Isn't this handling of a king from another country extreme even as a joke? This is excessive even if I denied your god that much. Or are you going to pretend I am ruffian who took the name of the King of Brunhild dukedom?

That's possible, if I am going to be executed. They will be able to do whatever they like after that. No matter what our country says, will this end with these guys saying that such person didn't come?

Well, that's fine. Let's quickly break out of here.

"Mirage"

I created an illusion of me and Kohaku, and placed it in the corner of the prison. After all, it will be troublesome to deal with the commotion if they found out that we escaped.

I thought of using "Gate", but there was barrier placed. Probably it was the suggestion of that bald priest. Well, there are still other ways to get out.

"Otto, I must conceal myself first"

Using the light magic "Invisible", I become transparent with Kohaku. With this Kohaku and me can see each other, but we should not be visible to other people.

I leave the prison by warping the bars with "Modeling". I then properly restore the bars since leaving it like that will be bad.

When I climbed up the narrow stairs, I arrived at a stone passageway with doors lined up on the left and on the right. At the end of the corridor, I can see the stairs leading further up. This is still the underground so the prison guard

should still be further ahead.

There are titles with numbers on the arranged doors, and I climbed up from the door with a "4" written on it.

"Map Search. Phyllis Rigitto"

『Acknowledge. Search End』

According to the map of the Sanctuary projected from my smartphone, it is to the right side. Is it prison door number "8"?

I put out the map immediately. Though my smartphone can be hidden with magic, the image projected on the air will remain as it is. After all, it will be bad if it is seen.

I opened door number "8", and descended the stairs once more leading to the dim underground portion of the prison. The stairs were ended shortly, and there was Phyllis bowing her head in the further side of the prison. Thank god. Is she really safe? It also doesn't look like she have been tortured.

Are? Is she not alone?? There is another person, lying down on the floor.

"Phyllis...Phyllis..."

Since I can't raise my voice that much, I call her out quietly. After several tries, Phyllis slowly raised her head.

"A voice..... Who? Who's there.....?"

Phyllis started looking around restlessly. Ah, that's right, I did conceal myself.

I remove "Invisible", and show up.

"Your Majesty King of Brunhild dukedom.....!!"

Leaving the surprised Phyllis aside, I bent the prison bars with "Modeling". I nimbly slip my body sideways and enter inside. Un? It is slightly bigger than the prison I was in. What's with this discrimination!!

"Why are you here.....!?"

"I came to help you because I considered that it was my fault that you would be executed"

"No! It isn't His Majesty's fault! I am.....!"

"Shi~ your voice is too loud"

I panicked and quickly covered Phyllis' mouth with both my hands.
..... Fuu, is it alright? Did they(tlc: the guards) thought that she was still talking to herself or did they thought that she's not alone? There is no sign of a prison guard coming here.

"By the way, who is that person sleeping there? Is that person a woman?"
"This person..... no, this lady..... is Her Eminence and the Pope of this nation, Elias Orutora-sama ~degozaimasu....."
"Eh!?"

I unintentionally shouted, and covered my own mouth with my hands this time.

Elias Orutora!? The Pope.....!? Eh, then who is the granny that I have met in hall a little while ago, the one with intense look !? ...No, she is not the same. This person is completely different. I peep at the sleeping face once more. Though she is about the same age as the granny from before, this person here has softer expression.

"Eh!? This person is Elias Orutora!? I thought I have met the Pope just a little while ago"

"..... That is probably another person. Is she about the same age as this person, but with sharper eyes?"

"Un, it felt like that"

"That person is probably Cardinal Kyurei. She is Cardinal Zeon's older sister"

So she is the elder sister of that annoying dude with a short mustache. Then, just wait a minute. Did they prepare a fake pope and made her do the audience with me? Does that mean that all the guys there were accomplices?? How did they come up with this?

"Sorry, I can't follow up with this story. Can you explain it properly?"

According to Phyllis story, it happened after she returned back home and told the details of what occurred to the pope and others. Having their own god denied, the cardinals got angry towards her for objecting against the teachings and ordered for her immediate execution. However, the one who intervened was the pope, together with some of the priests who also objected towards

that decision.

Even if their surroundings did not think that the Pope denied their god by protecting her, Phyllis was still surprised. Nevertheless, it seems she was still brought here.

And after several days passed, the weakened Her Eminence The Pope was brought here.

"However, why was even the pope put in the prison....."

"..... that is, in order to protect the secret of this country, ~desu....."

Her eminence the pope opened her eyes, and looked at me. Was she awake? The pope's right eye is blue and the left eye is light green. Don't tell me she possess magical eyes like Yumina?

"His Majesty the King of Brunhild, right?..... I am called Elias Orutora ~desogzaimasu....."

Her Holiness the Pope dejectedly raised herself up and named herself, but she seemed considerably weak. I need to have her recover first.

I cast "Recovery" and "Refresh", restoring her physical condition. And then I cast "Cure heal" as well. Though I was thinking why she didn't do it on herself, say because you don't particularly believe in god of light, it shouldn't restrict you to use the light magic, right ? Someone said that people possessing light or dark attributes are rare.

If it was similar to a fantasy game, the one who used healing magic would be someone like priest. Someone that healed by borrowing the power of god, which is kinda standard. If it was like that, the faith might have spread further more.

"..... Thank you very much. I am all better now"

"I am very glad to hear that. And, why were you brought here? You said something about the country's secret"

"....."

The pope stayed silent for a while, and then she raised her face looking determined.

"It is a secret related to the founding of our holy country, but there is no meaning to hide it from you guys anymore as well. As Phyllis said, god of light Lars doesn't exist."

I am surprised. For the pope herself to deny the supreme god, even Phyllis who is next to me is surprised.

"All the cardinals know about this. Even when I was a priest and became a cardinal, the previous pope told me of that as well"

Then it means the higher-ups knew about this, and yet they kept behaving like that god really existed. Is that it?

No, this is still strange. We know about this because we have actually met with god, but it should be impossible for them to verify whether the god exist or not. How they can be sure the god of light Lars doesn't exist?

"Originally this area was the domain of magic beasts, demonkin and evil spirits. The one that appeared here was a priest of light referred to as Ramirez-sama. However, Ramirez-sama wasn't a priest"

"Was—not a priest.....?"

Is that the Ramirez guy who they said to have founded Ramisshu? What's going on?

"Ramirez-sama wasn't a priest, but was in fact a summoner magician. He was a magician with a dark attribute"

"Wh.....!"

"They say Ramirez-sama called the god of light Lars-sama in order to cleanse this land. But the truth is different. What he called were the spirits of darkness using the summoning technique. And after using their power to subdue the magic beasts and demonkins in this area, Ramirez-sama thought of an idea, and put it into practice"

It is exactly as god said, did he summon the spirits? Furthermore, not those of the light attribute, but of the darkness attribute. Either way, the one called Ramirez should have been a considerably strong person to summon a spirit. However, he had a plan?

"Ramirez-sama thought of building a kingdom on this land using the ability of

the spirit of darkness to interfere with the minds of the people. Therefore, he made Lars religion. The spirit of darkness meddled with the minds of the people who were living in this area, and made them sympathize with Ramirez-sama's way of thinking. The majority of people accepted Ramirez-sama teachings without a doubt, and the country called Ramisshu Holy Kingdom was created"

OiOi, what's with that? Isn't this brainwashing? Well, it still might be different from direct brainwashing. But to make them sympathize with his ideas..... wouldn't that be hypnosis?

"Was the mind interference of the spirit of darkness that strong?"

"It made it easier to accept Ramirez-sama ideas, but the effect seems weak against people that have magic resistance. For that reason, the existence of god of light Lars was invented. Mind Interference and God. By using those two, Ramirez-sama grasped the people's hearts"

What a horrible guy, this Ramirez fellow. This is definitely a secret that is not allowed to be leaked outside. The existence of the religious organization itself might collapse. The religious society who believes in the god of light was in fact founded by the power of a spirit of darkness.

".....I understand the secret of religious community, but why was Her Eminence The Pope locked here?"

"Since I protected Phyllis, they suspected that I might try to leak the secret. Also, Cardinals Kyurei and Zeon siblings were originally aiming for the pope position, so using this opportunity, they impeached me. Before long, I was made to take strange medicine. By the time I noticed, I was already in this state. It seems they didn't kill me in order to have me abdicate the Pope position"

I see. Since they were not sure for what reason I came to this country and in addition to the Pope not being there as well, did they decide to use a trick and see how things will go when I made a visit earlier? There is also the matter of Phyllis. They were mostly likely cautious. However, they handled it very carelessly and sloppily.

"But why did her Eminence the Pope protected Phyllis? From the standpoint of the pope, was there a necessity to save her who could shake the existence of the god with her speech?"

That's it. If I consider the viewpoint of the pope, the existence of Phyllis should only be a nuisance.

"..... I believed in god, and became a priest. Furthermore, I could work really hard believing it was for god. But when I eventually became a Cardinal, I was informed of the truth that god didn't exist. After that, I was simply working for the religious group sake. For me who came to know the big secret, it was no longer possible to turn back"

Wow, so it was like that. You will absolutely be silenced if you try leaving the religious group. The dead men tell no tales. Now that I knew the secret of this religious group, I would share same fate.

"And by time I noticed it, I was suddenly on the Pope's position. It was an empty position, yet I couldn't abandon it. Then a few days ago, I heard Phyllis's story, The story that the god exists"

After saying that, the former pope turns her gaze to Phyllis. Then, the Pope addressed me with lively voice while being delighted and smiling.

"Do you understand my feelings at that time? The god of light Lars doesn't exist. However, a god definitely exists, and there is a girl that have met that god. The words of god that the girl heard, there was no wonder that I wanted to hear more. Don't you agree?"

"But didn't you even think that Phyllis might be lying?"

When I asked, the former Pope pointed to her left eye. The light green color of her pupil became dense.

"I have a magical eye that can see through person's lies. It's also one of the reasons why I was chosen as pope..... I immediately understood that Phyllis wasn't telling any lies. I got to know that a god really exist. I was very happy and I was also very envious of her because I also wanted to meet god....."

Her eminence the pope muttered sadly. Ah, somehow, I can read just how things will develop after this. Just now, I clearly saw the risen flag!

I look at Kohaku on my side. See! He totally stopped!

"Did anyone call me~?"

Cladded in dazzling light particles, god descended in this dark dungeon.

Like I said, this god jumps in too easily!

Chapter 119: Second Coming, and The Wriggling Object

"Have you been watching all this time?"

"I was a little worried. After the young lady was caught, I felt guilty because I thought I did unnecessary things. I also couldn't help her directly"

Well, I guess I understand how he feels. Anyone can say that things reached this point naturally because of God's sudden instigation.

When I casually look at Phyllis and the Pope, Phyllis was bowing down prostrating herself and the Pope surprisedly opened her eyes widely.

"Ano..... Your majesty the Dukedom King, who is this gentleman?"

"God desu~"

"God~..!?"

The Pope looked at me and God alternatively in bewilderment. Eeh? She is surprised, but isn't she not believing us too much? Ah, she has used her magic eyes now, didn't she. Though she seems to understand that it's not a lie, she still looks puzzled.

"That's right, God. That sparkling~ thing, please do it again"

"Eh? But didn't you tell me the other day not to use it?"

"It will be easier for them to understand if you do that"

When God exhaled, he suddenly started to emit that sparkling divinity. Wow, it's coming. Is this God's dignity? This must be what they call the halo. Right? The aura is no joke. This light make anyone agree without even thinking that this person is a God.

Her Eminence the Pope prostrated herself at once on floor similar to Phyllis that's next to her.

"C'mon, is this good enough?"

"Yes, that's plenty enough"

The pressure from light vanished. However, it just ended with that. Compared to those people, why do I have resistance to it? Is this also thanks to the raised

status God granted to me?

"What's the matter?"

"Well, I wonder why no matter how many times I see this light, I don't become like them. Have you done something?"

I tilt my head while looking at the two people prostrating themselves.

"Now that you said it, it is strange ~ja. Humans generally become like this when exposed to divinity ~ja. However, I didn't particularly.... Ah!"

"..... saying "Ah", what is it?"

Just now, he did an "Oh f*ck" face with all his heart! He did something, didn't he?! Ah, he averted his eyes! Don't whistle. This way of playing ignorance is old enough!

(TLC: sorry, couldn't resist)

"..... God?"

"Ah~..... er~..... just wait for a moment"

God raised his right hand to the sky, and released some kind of power. What was that just now?

"I stopped the time for these two as well. It would be troublesome if they heard it"

Is that so? But, since those two have been prostrating themselves all this time it is hard to know.

"And? What is it?"

"Ah~..... you died once in your original world. And because of that, I revived you"

"Yes"

Why are you saying this after a long time? Though it's thanks to that I am able to live vigorously like this.

"Usually, when a dead body is being restored, the typical process of revival involves repairing of the damaged portions of the body and the soul with the material composition of the world the person is from ~ja. But when you died I panicked. Can I still say that I have summoned your body to the world of Gods

or the God's Realm? After summoning you there I have revived you"

"..... In other words, what does that mean?"

"The materials that make up your body are from God's Realm. It will be easier to understand if I say that your body is closer to a God"

Huh!? Why is that!?

"But when I run, I get tired. I also get injuries, you know? Even if you say it is close to God body....."

"That's because not even one year has passed since you were reborn~ja ro. Besides, have you not realized that you change differently when compared to other people?"

I have thought of that. Things like the volume of magical power, and being able to use non-attribute magic, I did think about those. But weren't those the gifts from God.....? No, in the end that was his fault.

"I was careless. HaaHaaHa"

"It is not a laughing matter!..... And? Is there any harmful effect?"

"There isn't anything particularly. It should be fine to think of it as if you have obtained a strong body. Though you may wake up a strange power. When that happens, inform me."

What do you mean by a strange power!? Will I reach the point where I emit out such a sparkling light.....?

..... Well, it is fine. I don't mind it as long as it doesn't have any side effects or I don't die or something. If I can continue living as I have been doing until now, I don't have any problems with it.

Ah, come to think of it.

"God, do you know about the Fureizu?"

"Fureizu? What's that?"

He doesn't know after all. He did say that he hardly peeped into this world until he sent me. According to God, even if this world is near extinction, it is up for the people of this world to do something about it.

However, if I assume that God has a 'No Touch' policy, who drove the Fureizu

away 5000 years ago.....?

God once again raised his right hand and emitted power. He probably moved the time for those two. Kohaku is still stuck as he was. I pitied him since it feels like he is being left out.....

"Both of you, raise your heads. Miss, I am sorry for what has happened."

"N-n-no! Please somehow don't worry about it!"

"It seems I also got you involved Pope-san. I am sorry"

"Haa..... I received your grace....."

Both of them finally looked up. Phyllis looks normal but she's nervous even if this is their second meeting. As for her Eminence The Pope, she is tearing up from both of her blue and green eyes. Well, I guess it is understandable.

"I heard your story. It was difficult for you until now ~no. It must have been very painful to keep living while holding such a secret. But it is alright now ~ja"

"I am unworthy of your words....."

"It's alright just by saying it. So, what do you plan to do?"

Don't tell me that God himself is planning to proclaim that "the God of Light doesn't exist, so this the religious group is now dissolved!" or something like that? Though I feel that's definitely the fastest way to solve it.

"About this, hey, Touya-boy, will you do something about this for me ~ja?"

Don't you do anything by yourself ?! Isn't this way too irresponsible!? Well, by all means I shouldn't borrow God's aid, but still!

"Umm.... You see, defeating the cardinals is not going to be alright. Without a doubt, there will be panic if we tell the truth to the public."

But before that, they most likely won't believe us. We will certainly be branded as liars.

"Well, it is not like the citizens are at fault. With the way things are going, they will only believe in the God of light. But I feel that their way of thinking that says "Defeat evil by any means "Under the name of light and justice"!" is a little bit too much."

"This country can no longer exist without a God. Though it will be fine if we're

just able to change the teachings at least....."

The pope mutters while looking down.

However, it is not easy to change something like the teachings of a religion! It is similar to throwing away half of the current beliefs. How can that be dealt with.....? It would be good if an incident that can change their way of thinking occurred. If God appeared before the believers here, it would already be a complete interference I guess. After all we need to manage it by ourselves somehow. Right?.....

"Well, I will leave it to Touya-boy. Other than that, I think it would be better to do something about this fellow that is situated further below from here."

God peacefully knocked on the stone pavement with his feet. Below? The pope's face stiffened after hearing him.

"Were you able to notice it? That's the spirit of darkness that Ramirez-sama who founded this country summoned..... This thing still lurks below this Sanctuary."

"Eh!?"

Are you saying this thing is also from 1000 years ago when the country was founded !? Even if it is tentatively called the spirit, isn't it similar to summoned beasts? Doesn't it need magical power from somewhere in order to stay in this world? No, in the first place why is the spirit of darkness still here?

"Before long Ramirez-sama, who founded the Ramisshu Holy Kingdom, had his mind completely eroded by the spirit of darkness and he was reversely dominated by it. After that, the spirit fused with Ramirez-sama and he was sealed in this ground by the cardinals of that time. This was also convenient for them. If you ask why, it is because the spirit didn't lose its ability of mental interference, and could be used as the power of the religious group in this country. It's can't be killed nor kept alive. Even now Ramirez-sama is still the cornerstone of religious group."

The pope talked like that as if confessing in front of God.

What a story. So you're saying that this secret has been handed down by the cardinals ever since that time? I finally understood the unnaturalness of this

religious group. There won't be any problems if the magical power of the spirit is fused with the summoner. Though no matter what it is still hard to believe that he is conscious.

"The magic power of the spirit of darkness can't reach people like you or this girl who has a strong resistance to magic, but it doesn't go that way for regular people. Even now, they are unconsciously being pulled to that Ramirez's consciousness"

"Then, if we deal with this spirit of darkness somehow....."

"At least the excessive faith should disappear ~ja. From there it will depend on each person's feeling and way of thinking"

I see. First, We should cut the source. Nevertheless, there will still be people who will say that "Anything is fine for the sake of justice!".

"However, it might be better to hurry up perhaps? Even if you said they sealed him, the seal is already wearing out, because of that the power of darkness started to leak out"

"You are right. Because of that, the phenomenon where people were being deprived of their vitality started to appear here and there in the capital. Officially though, it became the fault of a vampire."

So this is the truth behind the vampire case. Right? However, isn't it bad that someone's life force is being taken away? With this it has started to store power.....

"For now, we should do something about this spirit of darkness..... Are there people who seems to be her eminence's allies?"

"There are some cardinals who are hoping for the same changes as I do, but our numbers are small when compared with Cardinal Zeon faction....."

It is still better than having no one. Though I think it is better if you hide how this country was formed, and the mind interference of the spirit of darkness. Also, the teachings that allow people to execute without hesitation anyone who deny their God just like Phyllis can be considered as something wrong.

"Then, is it alright to leave the rest to you? Since I will keep watching for awhile, I ask this of you Touya-boy. Farewell then"

"Eh!? Are you pushing this onto me!? Wai.....!"

God disappeared into the beads of light before I complained. He ran away! Damn it! He pushed onto me something troublesome. It would have been fine to give me a little help here, isn't it!

Time started to move again, and Kohaku looked speechless.

《Master. Right now, there was strange feeling coming from here.....》
《It isn't harmful so don't worry about it》
《Yes.....》

In between the time stop and it's time restoration, Kohaku probably could not keep up with how our pose or location changed. It is also troublesome to explain, and I would like him not to be worried about it.

"..... It feels like I was having a dream....."
"I thought so too, Your Eminence"

Is this the joy of meeting with God? While I was watching the Pope who muttered in order to try to sooth her excitement, Phyllis let out a giggle.

A that time, an electric shock suddenly pierced my back. It is similar to something like a worm crawling and it is unpleasant. It's coming from further down..... don't tell me?

"I think this is going to be slightly bad. The seal of the spirit of the darkness is coming off"

"No way!?"

Phyllis's face became pale. Then we started hearing a low rumbling sound from below. It's getting worse and worse. Anyway we need to escape from here!

I passed through the iron bars twisted with "Modeling", went up the stairs while taking Phyllis and the Pope along. In the meantime, the rumbling still continued, and it seemed to gradually grew bigger and bigger. This dungeon might collapse if things don't go well!

After coming to the passage with doors lined to the left and to the right right, I confirmed whether there were other prisoners just in case. Luckily there was

no one, and without any change, we run up the stairs again.

"Who are you bastard? How did you leave, raaa!?"

After climbing the stairs, I instinctively shot the guard we met by chance with a paralysis bullet. Ooops. I can't possibly leave him here. How troublesome!

"Kohaku! Return to your original size!"

『As you command』

Because he suddenly started to talk, the Pope was surprised by Kohaku who got larger. But I didn't have spare time to explain. I put the paralyzed guard on Kohaku back, and we escaped from the dungeon.

After running through the Sanctuary corridor, the sun has already completely gone down when we arrived at something that resembled a courtyard. The moon is high. When I confirmed the time, it was already midnight.

Because the barrier was not set up that far, we moved to the town central by using "Gate".

While the rumbling in the underground became something like an earthquake, the downtown was overflowed with inhabitants who guessed that this was not an ordinary case. It seems the people in this country are not immune to earthquakes.

While I unload the guard from Kohaku's back, the surrounding people noticed her Eminence the Pope. As expected, the Pope-sama seems to be a celebrity, since she was completely surrounded surprisingly fast by everyone in the streets. Probably they couldn't help it because of uneasiness even without this ground rumbling.

"Pope-sama! What on earth is going on!?"

"Please calm down. First for your safety, please get away from here....."

The moment she was about to explain them to take refuge, a massive explosion blew off a part of the sanctuary. Something crawled out from the cloud of dust that gathered around the blown off section. What the hell is that!?

Roughly speaking, it is a giant. However, it doesn't have a human shape. It is

warped in pitch black skin with two horns. From the side there are countless number of small arms, and six tentacles extends from its back. On its lower half, who knows how many octopus-like legs have grown. But there is only a big mouth splitting horizontally without eyes on its head.

"go, ga, gu, ga, gaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa!!!"

That fellow raised a sinister roar resounding in the earth itself and the atmosphere trembles. This scream roaring throughout the capital was more than enough to drive the people into the depths of fear. The ground begins to tremble with creaking sounds and the people start to collapse. Is this the mental interference ability? Perhaps it is increasing the emotions of fear.

The calamity of God of "Evil". Such words float in my head. That's the shadow of what was once the summoning master called Ramirez connected with spirit of darkness. Now it is a millennium old monster.

Chapter 120: The Spirit of Darkness, and The Fraud God

In any case, it is huge. The pitch black octopus-like legs surge forth, and the spirit of darkness starts to rise. That ominous figure is enough to send fear and other unpleasant feelings to anyone who sees it.

When it swings a single tentacle on its back, a portion of the Sanctuary next to it gets easily destroyed. While he lets out a thunderous roar, even more clouds of dust goes up. What destructive power!

"go, a, gua"

An incomprehensible groan started to leak out from its big open mouth. Eventually, pitch black fluids started dripping down from it like it's being vomited. Before those dripping fluids touched the ground, they turned into countless number of person-like things that grew wings like a bat. They have a long heads with no ears, nose or eyes, and their upper bodies are that of a muscular human with insect-like legs for its lower half.

They scattered all over the places that the capital reached while flapping their wings. The people's screams echoed here and there.

"ga, gu, tu gaaaaaaaaaaaaa!!"

The spirit of darkness directs its roar towards the heaven.

"It is a monster.....!"

"Oh god..... Please save us..... please ... Please!"

I could hear the praying voices from all around me. I am sorry, but this evil god is your god.

It probably holds no recollection of Ramirez already. It is merely being driven by its destructive impulses and malice just on instinct alone.

"It is said that thousand years ago, the cardinals joined forces and sealed it. But is it possible to do that again?"

"I think that is impossible. We can't, by any means, rival the power of the

cardinals of that time. Right now the majority of cardinals are comprised of people who can't use magic....."

It's no good either? Well, I agree with some of what the Pope said. Compared to the old days, the magical abilities of the current cardinals don't mean much. They are probably looking for things like faith, or political power. As a result, they are completely useless in situations like this one.

It can't be helped. Since it came down to this, will I somehow.....?

The moment I was thinking of this, an idea suddenly flashed in my mind.

Particularly, I thought "Can't I use this situation to change the doctrine of this religious group?". Though It is unreasonable to have the genuine God come, I can pretend to be God, defeat this thing, proclaim something like a "Divine Message", tell something to the Pope and leave. Won't Her Eminence gain the advantage even if faced against the cardinals? Maybe.

However, if I were to say it, this is a scam because I'm trying to deceive everyone. Well, it won't be a scam since I am going along the intentions of the genuine God. Right.....?

Because I wasn't been able to decide by myself, I took along the Pope and Phyllis to a private residence, and talked about the idea I came up with.

"..... Honestly, I am hesitant to deceive the citizens. However, I think that would be a much better situation than before. I at least want to get rid of the mind interference, and the teachings that do not allow the person to be forgiven just because he is evil."

Her Eminence looked straight at me and answered clearly. There is no hesitation in those eyes.

"Until now as a pope, I've been teaching the people to worship the god that I knew did not exist. I was restraining my feelings that seemed to be crushed by this sense of guilt, and was telling myself that this was also necessary for the country. However, if we are able to change the teachings, I would be able to openly talk about god. The god whom you pray to exists, and who is watching over us, we would be able to advocate the teachings and stick out our chests. How wonderful it would be if it can become like that.....?"

That's definitely true. Though I feel awkward for conveniently using God's name. Shall I give it try?

The citizens will be more than happy if the monster is defeated by the god they believe in rather than being defeated by a king of a foreign country. As for Brunhild, it is a chance to sell favor to the Holy Kingdom. But I suppose making it as an individual loan to the pope herself will suffice.

"B~, but, will you be all right? Can you win against monster that huge!? This is the spirit of darkness, you know!?"

"Mmm, I think I will be able to manage it somehow."

Phyllis' worries are reasonable, but that foe is not that much troublesome as based on my intuition.

The specialty of this spirit of darkness is probably, or rather unmistakably, the mind interference system. Apparently however, that ability is weakly invoked on a wide area rather than invoking it at pinpoint areas. That's probably why Ramirez thought of founding the Holy Kingdom. For people with high resistance to magic like us it is highly unlikely to be affected. We however may be gradually eroded should we stay close to it after a long time. It's a fact since even Ramirez succumbed to it.

Well, I guess I will manage somehow, but I won't know until I fight it. The problem is how to fight in such a way that would look like as if God is in battle. Well, I can do something about the appearance someway or another with "Mirage".

When I went outside, the spirit of darkness hit the ground like a whip with its long tentacle, continuing to destroy the streets. As I thought, it seems its basic attacks are typical physical attacks. Then, It is something I should be able to deal with.

Woops, if I don't hurry up, this capital will be destroyed. I separate from the Pope's group, and hide myself in the back alley. In the meantime, Pope and Phyllis are encouraging everyone in town to offer a prayer to god. Usually, I would like them to run away quickly, but this time, it is a necessary process. It's because the descent will have to occur in response to those prayers.

Using "Mirage", I change my appearance. Rather than calling it "change", it is

more like "cladding in illusion to look like it". Tentatively, I try to dress to become similar to a god of Greek Mythology with blond hair and blue eyes. Of course, it is a good looking one.

"What do you think?"

『It certainly looks real, but it seems to be lacking something』

Kohaku cocks his head. No, the real God look way too plain. Well, Kohaku has not yet seen God so far.

For the Image of God then, should it be like this? I put an illusion that emits light from my whole body. I also considered adding something like a Halo above my head or 12 wings behind my back, but that would be more of an "Angel"-like appearance. It won't mean anything if I simply become the messenger of god.

When I thought that everything is ready, I realized that there is one thing that is really bad. Normally, gods would appear and fly in the sky. Appearing while walking among people is a little..... I should have learned the magic that allows to fly in the sky. Pretending to be God is dreadful! This is so bothersome!

It can't be helped. First, I will project this god's illusion in the sky. Good grief..... there was no meaning in wearing this illusion. Well, in any case, I will have to be the one doing it when it is already the time to fight.

When I project the illusion of God in the sky above the Pope and the others, the voices of the rejoiced people echo with "OOOOO!". Good, First I will have to deal with those familiars rampaging in the whole town.

"Darkness come forth, what I desire is the radiant war maidens, Valkyries"

Despite them being called agents of light, saying "Darkness come forth" sounds funny. All around the god's illusion a great number of summoning formations are created, and I summon one corp of angels. They are the ones I have made a contract with after the rebellion in the Empire. It was terrible at that time with only griffons being able to fly at the sky.

『Defeat the apparitions created by the spirit of darkness and protect the town people』

I convey the orders by telepathy, and the battle angels scatter through the

capital all at once. The truth is, it would be fine to hit them with light magic after locking-on with the smartphone, but it would have ended instantly. The citizens wouldn't have known what has happened in that case. Though what I say is bad, this is directing we have on hand.

Despite that people's lives are at stake, I don't think those familiars are aiming to attack humans specifically even though it would sound imprudent. They are just senselessly raging about. However it doesn't make it less dangerous. Some may die as a result of collateral damage as well.

Following the appearance of a god and those divine messengers, the people of the capital become greatly excited.

Good, shall I move too? I disappear with "Invisible" and run on the roof like a kite following the illusion of the god so that it won't become a mess. In times like these, I really want the magic to fly in sky. I wonder if it is wind magic. No, if that's the case then someone like Rin would be able to fly as well. As I thought. Is it a non-attribute magic?

After arriving at the front of the sanctuary, I understood very well the size of the spirit of darkness.

I erase God's illusion, and while wearing the same illusion on my body, I take out a 2-meter-long long sword from "Storage".

This large sword was created with the Furizu's fragment and got its weight reduced with "Gravity", so now I can carry it with one hand. Doesn't this sword that shine and sparkle like a crystal give a mysterious image on its own way?

The spirit of darkness turns around and looks down to me. He has no eyes, but that's how it felt. The tentacles on it is back come flying towards me.

"Yo~, to"

I swing the sword horizontally while avoiding it to the side. The tentacle was cleanly cut off and fell. A creepy black mist began to flow from the surface of the cut tentacle. Uwa, gross!

Without giving me time to think, the formerly cut tentacle vanishes, and a new one regenerates. Does it also have such ability? That's annoying.

As God (Fake) I can't have it give me a hard time. I also thought of letting it fall down with "Slip", but in that case the damage to the streets should be great due to its huge body. Will it be better to crush it?

"Target lock-on the spirit of darkness. Activate "Gravity""

『Roger. Target acquired. Invoking "Gravity"』

In the next moment, the spirit of darkness couldn't endure the effects of "Gravity", and ended up collapsing on its side. Naturally, the part of the street under the fallen spirit had collapsed and was destroyed. Uaah, in the end isn't the effect the same as invoking "Slip"!? It was so awkward! And despite that, it was tentatively done by God.

This is bad. Since it has come to this, will deciding on a showy "It can't be helped since it was such violent attack" direction be..... excessive?

In any case, I have to finish it with overwhelming power. While thinking that, I increase the weight "Gravity", but I can't understand if there is any effect since this fellow also doesn't have a face. It seems that I have managed to hold it down though. Then.

"Oh Light Drill, sacred shining spear, Shining Javelin"

The spears of light pierced through the body of spirit of darkness. But this time, the drilled holes didn't regenerate as before. As expected, it might be because it is the spirit of darkness, and that light magic is its weakness?

"Target lock-on. Aim additional "Shining Javelin" at the spirit of darkness by 100..... No, 200 units"

『Roger. Target acquired.』

The small light magic formations started to appear in the sky one by one. Receive God's (imitation) attack (though only 200 shots).

"Fire!"

『Roger. Commencing simultaneous fire.』

The ground reverberated heavily due to the Shining Javelin's volley attack. The body of the spirit of darkness was cut to the smallest pieces due to the spears pouring down like rain of light. And before long, its figure ceased to exist after the volley ended. The thousands of fragments of its body spread like a black mist, and floated in the vicinity. This is also probably the spirit of darkness. It will be bothersome if it resurrects again after some time passes. I should thoroughly remove it.

"Come forth light, the radiance of exile, Banish"

I fling a purification magic over a wide area. A dazzling flash of light wrapped the area and the scattered black fog vanished like it was melted.

After the light fades away and the spirit of darkness completely disappears, a skeleton of a person falls down. Before long it crumbled to pieces, became ash and was swept away with the wind.

Was that Ramirez? After 1000 years passed, he was finally released. He is a pitiful one that suffered the consequence of his mistakes.

Now is the crucial moment for all of this. I will work hard to deceive everyone~.

Chapter 121: Divine Message (Fake), and Reform

When I looked toward the streets a very loud cheer resounded. I can hear the people's voices up to here even in the darkness of the night.

"Did it! He did it!"

"God of Light Lars-sama Banzai! The Evil has perished after all!"

"You wicked demons! Did you see the wrath of our god!!"

The citizens are packed with wild enthusiasm, but for some reason, I am feeling irritated. They are only spitting whatever they want. Shall I show them what is the wrath of god? Nothing will change if it goes like this. In order to change their thoughts, I must preach to them once.

"Target lock-on, range – within the capital. Invoke "Lightning Javelin" at a random place with no people within 10 meters. Invocation number – 300"

『Roger. Target Acquired. Invoking "Lightning Javelin"』

Suddenly, 300 thunderbolts struck the capital from the sky. Once again screams and yelling voices broke out, and the capital was engulfed in panic.

I operated the smartphone and projected my reflection to the place reaching the whole town so that even the guys far away could see me very well.

『Do not speak thoughtlessly about justice. You fools didn't even notice that it was your distorted justice that created this monster』

And, let's leave it at that. Using the "Gate", I call the pope to the front of collapsed Sanctuary before my eyes. When her image is projected on the sky display, the citizens raised their voices in admiration. Winking to her eminence, the pope kneeled, and lowered her head.

『Are you his highness The God of Light Lars-sama?』

『We are not this person. We are the god of light, but we are not Lars. A god called Lars does not exist』

The capital is wrapped in commotion. Of course it will be. After all, their god was denied.

『We have come to pass a divine message. Step forward.』

I place my hand on the forehead of the pope who stepped forward, and we are wrapped in the illusion of dazzling light. Even this small play gets me tired. Of course, there is no divine message or anything.

After the light vanished, the pope touched the ground with her head and prostrated herself. Aren't you taking it too far?

Well it doesn't matter. All that's left is the finishing touch.

『One more thing, I have to bestow punishment upon the people who piled up crimes and involved themselves in frauds using the name of god for their name of justice.』

Using "Gate" in the same way as with the Pope, I summoned all those who showed their faces during the audience. Starting with Zeon Cardinal, his elder sister Kyurei Cardinal that claimed to be the Pope, and the Templars prostrated themselves on ground all at once.

『Do you admit your crimes?』

"W~... we haven't committed anything like a crime! Being a devout servant of god, I did not.....!"

While prostrating in front of me, Zeon Cardinal started to appeal. Would he say such a thing even before the god (though a fake one)? If he thinks he can do something like deceiving, he is really looking down on god.

『You fool. Declaring an innocent maiden as a criminal, going as far as to plan the execution, confining this person who is the Pope in the dungeon, did you think I wouldn't know of these things?』

"t..t-that.....!"

The cardinals faces turned pale. The citizens who heard that began making noise talking among themselves. The high ranking Cardinals and Templars don't seem to be able to hide their shock from the fact that they were proclaimed as perpetrators.

『Not only those, Shall I disclose the numerous charges done under the name of god one by one?』

"uguuu.....!!"

The cardinals fell into silence. It is like asking the leading question. They have probably done many vicious things under the name of god. They are beyond saving. Even while knowing their god doesn't exist, those guys used it because it was convenient. There is no room for leniency.

『Repent』

"uguuu!"

Using "Paralyze" stealthily, I paralyzed everyone. I glanced at the cardinals who collapsed in their place, and addressed the Pope.

『I entrust you with the treatment of these people』

"Yes"

『Light and Darkness are one and indivisible, justice and evil are created entirely by human hearts. Know that overbearing justice brings only ruin. We do not wish for that』

I declare so while I face the citizens. But good words won't come out. I guess I'm really not suitable as a scam artist. Shall I run away before making a mistake?

I have the Valkyries scattered throughout the city gather around me.

『Farewell. Children of men』

The Valkyries shine brilliantly in unison. I use the "Gate" during the opportunity when everyone's eyes are dazzled and hide in a shade. I let the feathers of the angels scatter with illusion after the light disappears. Directing-directing.

The pope stood up, and declared in a loud voice.

"The god has left! From now on, we will atone for our crimes, and we will repent for going against the will of god! As the god have said, we have to make an effort to cut through hardships and trials by ourselves using our own power. God will watch over us! Pray for gratitude!"

oooooooooooo!! the voices of the delighted people echo in the capital. As expected. Or rather how should I put it? The reaction is different. Is this her charisma maybe~?

Anyway it feels like it will work out somehow. While watching the Pope's speech and the excited citizens from the shade of the sanctuary, my smartphone which I put in silent mode in my pocket vibrated. A call is coming.

"Yes, hello. Is it God?"

『Yes hello. God ~desu. Looks like you have settled it. With this I am relieved for now.』

"Well, everything is fine for now. The strange mind interference should have disappeared already, and they should be able to think for themselves and make decision whether to believe in god or not from now on, shouldn't they?"

In a sense, you may say a wedge has been driven into the group's consciousness called "God" that's chaining them together. The nation's power will certainly go down. However, I think the number of people oppressed by the unreasonable justice will decrease.

And yet there may still be people who will continue to believe in god of light Lars. That's also fine because it is up to them whether they want to believe in him or not. However, they won't be able to do as they like to other people and brandish their selfish justice or become a state religion again.

『I am sorry for leaving everything to you. Please, also apologize for me to the young miss and to the Pope-san.』

"Please don't worry about it. Rather than that, please also try to peek at this country even if it's only occasional, so that it won't go once again in a strange direction."

『I understand. I will take proper measures.』

I finish the call with God, and using "Gate", I move to where Phyllis and Kohaku are.

"You Majesty..... Thank you very much"

Seeing my figure, Phyllis was filled with tears and lowered her head. I didn't particularly do anything to receive your gratitude. In the first place, I am the one who started this commotion.

"God told me to apologize to you and the pope. I think it will difficult from now on, will you be alright?"

"Yes. Because God is watching over us"

Phyllis nods with eyes without any hesitation. It seems it was unnecessary worry.

It is after the fact but, since it was my fault for using "Gravity" that the buildings and sanctuary were completely destroyed, I decided to repair them with "Modelling". But I was stopped by her Eminence. I was told that it wouldn't be good if I showed off my power here. There is a chance that I may expose that god's true nature. Isn't it better if I am not here?

While looking at the Pope preaching the new teachings of god, I hand Phyllis the gate mirror for communication. After doing a short goodbye, I and Kohaku went back to Brunhild dukedom with "Gate".

=====Change Scene=====

Several days later, rumors came in that a god descended in Ramisshu Holy Kingdom, and defeated the evil god of darkness. It was laughed off in less religious countries. Apart from that, the doctrine of the Holy Kingdom now changed from having the "God of Light Lars" as its object of belief to the "God of Light", and the motto "Under name of light and justice" also vanished.

The one who founded Ramisshu Holy Kingdom was still Ramirez, and the one who helped him was the god of light. That didn't change. Simply, the existence called "God of Justice Lars" was erased.

"I never expected you to pretend to be a god..... you will incur divine punishment, Touya"

Elise tells such a joke. I properly explained to everyone what has happened in Ramisshu. Though of course I omitted everything about God.

Cardinal Zeon, Cardinal Kyurei and the other Templars who were hostile to the Pope, had their properties seized. They themselves were excommunicated and were sent to prison. The confiscated amount was a considerable one. Apparently they earned quite the income under the pretext of donations and offerings. The pope used that money to compensate the people who suffered the damage.

Those who were sent to prison know the secret of the foundation of the Holy Kingdom, but no one will probably believe them, because in front of the crowd,

they were judged by the god himself and convicted of using his name for deception.

After a short while, a messenger came from Ramisshu once more. Phyllis, who from a priest became the youngest Cardinal, bowed her head down in the audience hall.

"You look well."

"Your majesty the King didn't change."

I take a look at the letter Phyllis brought after finishing the formal greetings. To sum it up, it talked about what I said before, and them wanting to establish a deep friendship. This time, something like choosing state religion, or receiving a baptism was not demanded. It is simply a letter of expressing their desire to be on good terms.

Because that itself is not a bad thing, I decided to accept it. It is necessary to establish diplomatic relations with many countries for this country to grow, but it is not necessary to establish anything in a country that will bring harm.

"I was nervous of what could happen, but in the end it was settled peacefully. I wonder if this was also the intent of the god who appeared in Ramisshu?"

After Phyllis has left the audience room, Kousaka-san glanced at me from the side while letting out a sigh of relief. I didn't tell Kousaka-san the details of what happened, but I said that I was present when it occurred. I went to Ramisshu, and the god descended. Seems like it was considered as a convenience of some sorts.

"Is there really something like a god?"

"Who knows~. He is in the hearts of the believers, and he isn't in those who don't believe. It is probably like that."

The English writer, James Barry wrote that in the world of "Peter Pan", every time a child murmurs "there is no fairy", a single fairy dies. Believing is to acknowledge its existence. I think it isn't a thought that can be restrained by anyone.

"Does his majesty believe in god?"

"I believe in him very much"

I thought that I heard the fluttering laughter of God somewhere.

Arc 17: Everyday Life #4

Chapter 122: New Magic, and Flight Magic

"But I want to fly in sky"

"Even if you say that....."

While drinking black tea in the balcony, Rin raises her eyebrows. I have been thinking about it during the events in Ramisshu the other day and also before that during the empire's coup d'état, but I may have to take care of the enemies in the sky too. It will make a whole world of difference whether or not I can fly at that time.

I can also summon something like a Griffon, and fight while riding it, but flying on my own should be more convenient after all. Thus, I try asking Rin whether such magic exists or not.

"You know, even if I can make myself soar with the wind attribute, freely controlling it is somewhat impossible because this magic is intended to blow off the enemies in the first place. Rather than flying, it feels more of being made to fly."

"Ummm, for that..... It is a non-attribute magic after all, isn't it?"

"It probably is. Sadly, I don't know which one either"

After I hear that even the Fairy tribe which excels at magic doesn't know whether such magic exists or not, it seems there is no reason for them to remember the non-attribute magic because it is impossible to use it. Ah, that maybe so. Non-attribute magic is an individual magic. Because the others won't be able to use it even if they know it, it is useless to even investigate that magic.

Since it came to this, I have no choice but to check the piled up books about non-attribute magic. I have bought all interesting massive dictionary-like magic books from the bookstores and gathered them in the castle's library. The non-attribute magic from all times and places are mentioned and recorded in those books. The contents vary from worthless magic to convenient usable magic. Like when will I be able to use this magic that will make ants walk in a straight line?

"Touya-an chan..... Will you really search for it from all of these?"

I thought of having Rene who is free to help out, but she showed an astonished face after looking at the thickness of just one book. I guess she is right.....

The nasty thing about these books is that each and every one of it has it's own publisher, or rather, a different editor. Thus the magic recorded in them keeps on repeating. I ended up seeing the same magic in other books time and time again.

"I think so. For now, let's try looking for it. In the afternoon, I will have Shizuka, Rain-san or someone else help us as well"

While sitting on a chair in the library, Rene begins to briefly check the book one page after another. Tentatively, the magic we are searching for is a "Magic that allows someone to fly" or any magic which resembles it. But I have also requested her to check if there is a magic which seems usable.

Maybe it's "Flight" or "Fly". I think it's near to those two, but I can't invoke a magic even if I chant it just by only guessing its name. What's with that? Is it necessary to properly acknowledge that the magic does exist or do I have to understand it properly?

I have occasionally thought about it, but I wonder if this my ability isn't just a "copy" ability. I copy the magic that have existed and make it my own; this kind of feeling.

But, I guess it is not. I indeed found an interesting magic once in awhile like "Taboo", which makes it impossible to say designated words. Although I find it interesting, I don't know its field of use. Well, if for example I make "Fireball" a taboo, will it prevent my opponent from using that spell? But since it can only affect one word per person, it perhaps may not be as effective as I hope though.

"Touya-anchan, how about this one?"

".....Nope. I don't need this one"

The magic "Mosaic" was on the page that Rene showed me. I wonder when I could use that..... It is apparently similar to visual interference magic, but only obscene images come to my mind. In the first place, a mosaic is a decorative way to show patterns. Why does it have an effect like that?

Other magics include "Sleep" to make the enemy sleep, "Silence" to erase arbitrary noise, and "Shield" to make an invisible wall to confront attacks.

I have also found a few spells that look useful. "Silence" only makes the sound disappear, but it doesn't seem to prevent a spell from being chanted. The spell doesn't make a person incapable of chanting. It just makes the chanting inaudible. I guess that's natural.

But, we still haven't found the important one.....

"O"

My hand stopped as I was turning a certain page. "Levitation". A magic that makes objects float, but the object can only float up to where the caster can reach. It is about two meters, isn't it? It seems usable when carrying heavy things, but I have "Storage" for that. Ah, since I can't place living creatures in "Storage", could it be useful to carry a person or an animal?

"Levitation"

As a test, I have tried applying the magic on the book on top of the desk. The thick heavy book starts floating gently in the air. Oh! It really is floating. I try moving the book in the air. Hmm, it does move freely. But, as expected, it looks like it won't go any higher than what my hand can reach.

When I applied "Levitation" on Rene as a test, it looked like she couldn't move freely in air on her own. She was making gestures as if she was swimming, but she only moved a little bit. But since she did move a little, will it be possible to move if there is some sort of fan propelling her?

Though Rene was happy when I made her fly inside the room, I wonder if this is really "Flying"?

She couldn't fly higher than two meters, and the speed is about the same as walking. Ah, but could it be possible if I make a flying magic carpet similar to the one in the Arabian Nights with "Enchant"?

"I guess I am keeping this for now"

This magic looks useful in a lot of ways depending on how it is used.

Then in the afternoon, Shizuka and Rain-san also came to help. When four

people started searching, the search speed was doubled. And after two hours or so, Shizuka finally found it.

""Fly". No doubt, this is it. This is floating and propulsion by magic. Though it seems to consume considerable amount of magic power, it will probably be alright"

The person who used it, apparently, was only able to fly for maximum of 3 minutes, but he was able to do it freely. However, when the magical power was exhausted, would he fall head first into the ground? Well, in my case, it shouldn't end up the same way for me since I can escape with "Gate" during emergencies, right? Three seconds are enough to recover the magic power I need for using "Gate" for one person.

First comes the trial. I will have to try it in any case.

=====Scene Change=====

Upon arriving to the castle's training grounds I start concentrating magic power. In addition to Rene, Shizuka and Rain-san, Nicola-san and Elsie who were in the middle of training, as well as Yamagata-ossan's group have come to watch, but I make sure not to mind it. Concentrate, concentrate.

"Fly"

My body floats gently one meter above the ground. Ooh~. In this situation, I turn the direction my body is facing. Hmm, it shifts according to my thoughts. Shall I try to fly a bit higher? When I think of this, I immediately rise higher by dozens of meters. Toottotto!

I am still not sure of adjustments. It feels like operating a radio-controlled model without touching it. However, it really is high. I have tried how much higher I could go, but because I got cold I stopped midway. It felt suffocating.

Next, I tried to see how fast I could go. But I stopped in the middle of doing it. The wind resistance was not a joke to the point that I could not open my eyes. Hmm~ how do I deal with that? Ah, shall I put up a "Shield"? It was quite comfortable when I tried it. Un, I should be able to fly at considerable speed.

After that, should I try a sharp turn? I try various things like somersaults, sudden stops, nose dives, sudden rises, and zigzag flying. It became somewhat

pleasant. Alright, next is three rotation somersaults!

=====Scene Change=====

"So, you came down because you got sick when you tried that?"
"I have no excuse....."

I was totally exhausted so I rested my head on Elsie's lap under the shade of a tree. I calmed down considerably, but it was still a bitter experience..... Come to think of it; I didn't ride things like a rollercoaster that much. Indeed, when it comes to those things..... Yeah, right. I thought about it when we crossed the Great River Gau as well, but not being seasick probably has no relation to the current issue.

For some reason, "Recovery" isn't effective on this sort of sicknesses. Earlier, when I tried applying it on Baba-jiisan who got drunk because of sake, he became sober to my amusement. Well, being drunk due to sake and vehicle motion sickness are different after all. After Baba-jiisan got sober, he started to drink again.

"And were there any other problems besides that?"
"It was fine more or less I guess..... Though it got cold when I flew too high."

Ah, that reminds me, couldn't I have used "Warming" against the cold?..... But still, the atmosphere up there is thin anyway. And there is also no need to unreasonably fly that high, I guess.

I get up since keeping my head on someone's lap for too long is not good. Those things became less embarrassing as well..... don't we look like love birds, I wonder?

"Hey, Touya. Will I also be able to fly if you apply that flight magic on me?"
"No, that's probably impossible. It is not part of the operation magic system. You can't apply your "Boost" on Lindsey, right? It's the same as that"
"I see~....."

Elsie sighs sadly. Why!? Did she want to fly?

"You can fly if I hold you in my arms though"
"Ee, that's..... somehow embarrassing....."

Elise has became red and nervously looked down. You are saying that even though you are fine with a lap pillow? I don't understand the standards.

"Ah, it may still be possible if I combine it with "Levitation", I think? But that doesn't mean that Elsie will be able to fly entirely freely"

I tried to make Elsie float in the air with "Levitation", though she was surprised and struggled because it happened so suddenly. After a while, I raise her up since she has calmed down already. As expected, she stopped at my hand's reach.

"Fly"

This time, I use flight magic. As I rise up, Elsie goes up as well. I guess it is as expected. It is possible to raise someone up and down based on my height. I can fly along with a person that is floating due to "Levitation" if I am aware of it properly.

Without changing anything, I flew and landed on the castle balcony. Unn, there are no problems. Elsie placed hand on her chest like she is feeling relieved.

"It is scary when you are not used to being light. Like I thought, there is no need for me to fly"

Oh, really?. Well, you may die if you fall, and it feels like that whatever happens, the one who controls that is not yourself but the other person?

For now, I was able to achieve my goal with this. I can now equally fight in the sky against flying apparitions like the Manta type, or any flying type Fureizu that may appear as well.

"I am going to fly once more"

"Make sure you don't get motion sickness this time."

After Elsie sees me off, I circle around the castle skies once more and soar along the highway. While looking at it from above, I can see the town has considerably extended. I am deeply moved.

It still gives out a shopping district feel and not that of a town yet. I land in the alleyway where the children are playing spinning tops(Beigoma).

"Uwa~!? Why is Heika here? I got surprised!"

"Did you come from sky!?"

"Amazi~ng!"

It feels slightly good to be looked upon with eyes of respect from the children, but not to the extent of it being festive though.

"Oh!? Do you think a sorry will resolve it after you bring that kind of thing to a customer!?"

The voice of a rude man echoes in the street. When I accidentally look in the direction opposite to the children's alley, I see what seems to be a dispute coming from the direction of the coffee shop.

Two large soldier-like men are pressing the waitress at the terrace of the coffee shop.

"Isn't this a cigarette butt inside the food?! Can money be paid for this thing?!"

"How much money you will pay to compensate us!? We are fine because we have noticed it, but we might have gotten a stomach problem if we ate it!? You get that. Right? A~A!?"

Those definitely are guys with bad character. They are just like hoodlums. It is completely a false charge.

I go in front of that store and speak to the waitress-san.

"What's wrong??"

"A....! T-those gentlemen are saying there is a cigarette butt in the meal..... but, that's a lie. There are no employees who smoke cigarettes in this shop!"

"And, is it like that? Is it possible that either one of you guys might have dropped it by mistake?"

When I said that while protecting the waitress-san behind my back, the soldier-like pair glares at me while knocking down the chairs.

"A~A~!? Oui, brat. Isn't it that you are looking down on us with that remark?"
"It seems you really love to have a quite painful experience.!"

Those two crack their fingers while they are approaching us. It will be a little

obstructive to do it here.

I take their arms and throw them into the middle of the highway one by one.

"Gu huh!?"

"Ob uu!?"

They flew really well after I lightened them a little with "Gravity". Those two who did not understand what happened stood up, and faced me with one of them carrying an axe, and the other carrying a large sword.

"Slip"

"Ugyaaa!"

"Gueee!"

The two hoodlums magnificently fall down. I increase their weight while in that state with "Gravity", thus immobilizing them. In front of the two people who can't move due to excessive weight I squat down and call out to them.

""Ugigi.....!""

"It is really troublesome when you do such things in our country. Since I am more or less the king, I can't overlook it"

""!?"

The two widely open their eyes when I reveal my status, and show faces full of surprise. These guys are really troublesome. Now, what shall I do with them?

Ah~, that reminds me, there is no prison or anything similar in our country. Should I use this occasion to make one?

I take out lumps of Iron from "Storage" and make a prison about three tatami mats large. And after seizing their possessions and equipment, I throw them in. Even though I say it is a prison, it is only a box made of iron with a transparent side. There are no bars. Small air holes are opened neatly in the ceiling.

Now, shall I punish them? As soon as the door is closed, the two start to scream and shout. I believe it is a genuine scream. They cover their ears and keep writhing in agony. However, no sound can be heard outside, because it is prevented by "Silence".

"Y-your majesty? Inside, what is....."

"Ha? It is only "Noise" and I am only making them listen to it"

"Noise?"

"It is a sound similar to something like scratching on a board with nails or the sound of a fork scratching on tableware, again and again"

"uwaa....."

The waitress-san draws back. Well, I pretend I didn't see that.

Eventually, the patrol guards came running. Since I have made it so that the sound will stop when anyone opens the door, I instruct them to release the two guys after a reasonable time and hand them the key.

There are still a lot of things to do. But because things like this occur, I also have to strengthen the public order. Isn't it the right time to officially make the knight order?

I fly towards the castle while thinking about it.

Chapter 123: The Knight Order Recruitment, and the Commander Selection

"And for this reason I think it is about time we establish the knight order."

After I broach the matter in such way, Kousaka-san stands up from among everyone sitting before the round table in the conference room.

"When I consider this within the reasonable scope and from the standpoint of the current national interest, we should start from 30 former Takeda candidates. Since they are originally our subordinates, we also know their backgrounds. There will be 15 people from Baba and Yamagata's subordinates each. About 10 former Takeda shinobi led by Tsubaki for the Spy Unit and around 60 new recruits will also be included. How about we start with those 100 for the time being?"

60 new people? I guess this should be good as a start. It is not like this is a big town either.

In the conference room, the ones gathered beside me and Kousaka-san are also Baba, Yamagata and Naito of the former Takeda heavenly kings, the head of shinobi Tsubaki-san, and the three knights of our house namely: Rain-san, Norun-san, and Nicola-san. Among those, Kousaka-san, Naito-ossan, and Tsubaki-san are not exactly knights. But it is probably better for them to be present when we decide on such matters.

"What shall we do about the qualifications of the recruitment?"

I reply to Baba-jiisan's question.

"Let me see..... First of all, criminals, and wanted people are rejected by default. As for the rest: Male or female doesn't matter. Race doesn't matter as well. Neither the social standing nor age"

"Won't it cause a swarm of people to come if we draw up such requirements?"

What Yamagata-ossan said is probably justified, but as we don't know where we may find outstanding personnel, I don't think it is bad to take many

applications for now.

It is our job to find a gem among the wheat and chaff.

"By the way, what are we going to do about the Commander's position?"

Naito-ossan lightly raises his hand and remarks. The Commander of the Knight Order? When I throw a fleeting glance at Baba-jiisan and Yamagata-ossan...

"I decline it because it's troublesome. Being a squad leader is enough for me"

"Me too since it isn't in my nature"

Ah, as I thought. They mentioned this before but since they served as generals of Takeda, I thought that they might do it. Did they have had enough of it? Then, that leaves.....

"So, do we choose someone from those three?"

"""US!?"

Rain-san's rabbit ears tense up and rise. Both Norun-san and Nicola-san have very dumbfounded faces. Those three people, who are rabbit, wolf, and fox beastmen, are officially knights of our house.

"Well, there is no one else after all"

"B-but, it is still impossible for us to be a Commander!"

Rain-san waves both her hands in panic and the other two are nodding their heads in agreement.

"Umm, well it's only about 100 people, and each of you will form a company with me in command in case of emergency. But I still think it's necessary to have a Commander when I am absent"

"It is, but....."

The Commander is necessary no matter what. It's still pretty much a knight order even if its members are few. However, the problem is how to make a decision..... After all, the three of them have their pros and cons.

Nicola-san is a serious person, but he isn't flexible. Norun-san is sociable but careless. Rain-san handles everything flawlessly but she is a little shy.

"Well, Let's have one of you guys be our household's Commander while the

other two will be Vice-Commanders."

Nicola-san raises his hand after I declared that.

"I recommend Rain as the Commander."

"M-me too~ I think Rain-chan will do well"

"Eeh!?"

Rain-san got betrayed! She is glaring at those two while having that kind of face. If both of them recommend her, there should not be any disagreements. As for me, it will work out as I want it to.

"Y-you two, what you are saying!? Wouldn't Nicola be more suitable than me!?"

"No, you are much better if you calmly think about it. Since Norun-san is careless, it will be slightly problematic for her to be the Commander. There are also times where she plays hooky. As for me, I probably will be extremely strict with the subordinates because I'm not flexible enough. This is not a good trait for the Commander. They say the candy and whip policy is often used to make people follow you, and I am definitely a "whip" person. It is better for the Commander of the Knight Order to be a "candy" person."

Hmm, Let's look at it objectively. This has an image of Hijikata Toshizou of Shinsengumi. His standing is that of "Demonic deputy head". With Isamu Kondo as the bureau chief, the deputy sternly judges the members in a cool-headed manner from the side. Certainly, I think there should be a person with such character.

"Then, Rain-san will be the Commander for the said reasons"

"There are no objections"

"Eeh!? Please wait!!"

For these past several months, these three have been slowly acquiring power due to Baba-jiisan's and Yamagata-ossan's daily training aided by invited veterans from both the Belfast Kingdom and the Regulus Empire. Their characters are considerably stalwart, and their basic physical ability surpasses normal people from the start since they are beastmen.

In addition to that, she is perhaps the most suitable person in some sense. Since she is a female beastman, won't that make it known that this country

doesn't discriminate against race or sex if Rain-san becomes the Commander?

"Calm down. Even if it is the position of a "Commander", it is still only comparable to a platoon leader from other countries. So there is no need to get worked up. I will count on the other two to support you as Vice-Commanders"

"Haa"

"Leave it to me~"

Nicola-san seriously answers, while Norun-san giggly replies. Rain-san herself says "Eeh—" and sits down dejectedly on the chair. Even her rabbit ears are hanging down silently too.

It felt awkward, but I have to make you do your best here. I will also support you as much as I can.

All that's left is to make flyer like advertisements and distribute them in different places. It should catch people's attention simply if I ask to place them on locations such as Belfast's or Regulus' adventure guild.

After discussing it with everyone, we decided to host the selection meeting one month from now.

=====Scene Change=====

And, a month later.

"Eh?"

"As I said, more than 1000 candidates gathered to fill up the remaining 60 positions. This is unexpected."

Kousaka-san tells me their numbers after I unconsciously asked again. What's with this "more than 1000 people"? Indeed, we spread the recruitment flyers in various places, but for that many people to come is too much. There is obviously a lot more than citizens of this country.

"Why did it turn like this?...."

"Your Majesty is the only silver rank adventurer in Belfast, the hero who suppressed the coup d'état in Regulus, and the dragon killer in Misumido. They were probably drawn by your fame. Of course, there might be spies from other countries or people who only want to look around included among them as

well"

I see. Well, it is better to have many candidates. Right? It also seems possible to flexibly deal with those that gathered.

"And, how does his majesty plan to go with selection?"

"Mmm, I wonder what's the best thing to do. Honestly, I haven't decided yet"

You see, I have no idea what standard I should use.

"It depends on what kind of person your majesty think is right for our Brunhild knights. If you believe strength is everything, then I guess it will be fine to have all the participants fight and employ the top 60 fighters"

You're saying that without any hesitation. No matter how much talent they possess, they will be rejected if they are mere thugs. When I think about it that way, I guess, the ideal knight is someone considerate to the matters concerning the citizens of this country above all else. Though many have come to our house with different expectations, I won't be able to concede on this.

However, to interview each one of them one by one will take too long. What shall I do?

=====Scene Change=====

"The applicants interested in joining Brunhild Knight Order, please come over here and line up one by one in an orderly fashion"

At the reception desk established in the front of the castle's gates, the applicants write their full name, sex, race, age, birthplace, and letter of self-appeal on the documents and receive a badge with a number from Lapis-san. Afterwards, I have the same number compulsorily stamped at the back of their hand, and the day ends with that. The selection meeting is the day after tomorrow.

As for the badges, I have them attach it somewhere easy to see like their chest or something for today, tomorrow and when they go out.

This actually is the first examination already. The news have already been spread out to every citizen, and they are supposed to write the badge number of the person who gives them a bad impression during their stay. Since I ask

them to write the reason, like committing violence in a store, or putting their hands on female clerks, a report is written immediately should something happen.

A smart guy can understand the meaning of the badge they receive the moment it was handed to him.

This is not "The method for finding person suitable" for our household. It is "The method for finding the person not suitable" for our household. Those who bother the same people they might have to protect without even thinking about the meaning of the badge won't be allowed.

Furthermore, I have applied "Mirage" on Tsubaki-san's subordinates making them look like beastmen and demonkin and have them wonder in the town. I won't need the ones who look down and discriminate against them. Because $\frac{1}{3}$ of the recruits are demi-humans, should they be employed, they will naturally become colleagues with those guys that discriminate. And it will only become troublesome since those guys will discriminate against them while saying things like "Even though they are beastmen" or "Even though they are demonkin".

Afterward, I summon approximately 100 cat familiars and send them to town. They will report every single detail to me.

"A guy is quarreling with a traveling merchant ~Nya. Badge number 685"
"There is a group who got drunk and is making noise in the restaurant ~Nya. Badge numbers 812–815"
"Someone threw a stone at me suddenly ~Nya..... Badge number 258"

Are reports coming in already? However, it is seriously difficult for me to record this by myself..... Should I ask Kohaku to help? Since he is the king of beasts, he should also be able to receive the cats' telepathy. And I have asked Rene and Lyme-san to do the writing.

As expected, when more than 1000 people have arrived, the lodgings in Mika-san's inn was by no means enough. Most of applicants had to camp outside of town. Since there are no dangerous animals, I am relieved in regards to that.

However various kinds of people have come. I also disguise myself with "Mirage" and go to inspect the town. Because the flyers said that sex didn't matter, there are many female adventurers too. As expected or how should I

put it, it feels like many beastmen and demonkin gathered and made groups.

Though I reject the humans who discriminate against beastmen and demonkin, I also conversely reject beastmen and demonkin that are hostile to humans. Even though there might be circumstances for each one of them, they are not necessary talents for our household.

Now, I think the worst kind of guys will disappear with this, but i guess it is still necessary to focus on the screening.

Incidentally, my proposal of putting everyone under "Paralysis" and pass those fellows with high magic resistance was rejected by everyone. It was perceived that it doesn't have anything to do for a knight's qualification . Well, it doesn't have anything to do whether that person is good or bad as well.

I will rely on Yumina's magic eye for that, though I will have her help only after the number decreases to some extent.

Good grief! It looks like it will get busy.

Chapter 124: Selection meeting, and passed candidates

On the day of screening, the applicants with the badge numbers reported by the town's people, Tsubaki-san's underlings and the cats were not allowed to pass the castle's gate. Naturally, some protested, but they went back dejectedly when they were told in detail about what they did in this country. Approximately 50 people got disqualified with this, and around 950 people were left. Were they only decreased by 1/20? I guess it's still not enough.

After entering the castle, the candidates gather at the training ground. I went up the hastily built stage together with the trio of Commander Rain-san and Vice-Commanders Norun-san and Nicola-san, as well as Baba-jiisan and Yamagata-ossan. I am having Yumina, Rue and Tsubaki-san wait together with Elsie, Lindsey and Yae next to the stage.

I operate my smartphone and increase the volume for its speaker function.

"First of All, Welcome to Brunhild Dukedom. I am the king of this country, Mochizuki Touya. We will be conducting selection for our Order of Knights now. But frankly speaking, our household's wages are not high. Speaking of the Knight Order, there are also plenty of odd jobs to be done addition to defending the country. As you can see from the beastmen behind me, there is no favoritism in regards to race or social standing. Only those who consider that "this is still fine" are welcome to stay"

After I declare that, the recruits get noisy and start talking among themselves. Eventually, several people go back towards the castle gate. Well, it is not like I was thinking that everyone would stay. It is better to have them leave now if they are dissatisfied with that.

"Well then... first, I am asking everyone to show their endurance. Please go out at the castle gate and run a single lap along the perimeter of the castle's moat"

Everyone made a delicate expression similar to showing their disappointment to what I said. The castle's circumference is roughly two kilometers. They are

probably thinking that no matter what, the distance is too short to measure their endurance.

"By the way, your resulting position doesn't matter. It is fine if you can make the round at your own pace. In regards to retiring... If it becomes too hard and you want to abstain, you can remove your badge, and you will be transported back here. Now then..."

The moment they finish hearing my words, I place a magic spell on everyone who began to run.

"Gravity"

"Gu oh!?"

Suddenly, everyone groveled on the ground.

"I have placed a weight magic on everyone. Please run a lap in this state. If you think you cannot continue, remove your badge and you will be transferred here as I have said a moment ago"

The groveling people begin to stand one after another and slowly leave through the castle gate. I am not saying it is to the extent of a turtle march, but it is far slower than the standard walking speed.

They should be able to move since the applied weight is not to the extent where they can no longer do that. Though they will still require tremendous strength just to do so. I am sending shinobis to watch them just in case so that they don't fall into the moat by mistake or cheat.

"Is something like an order really irrelevant?"

"Mmmm... Well, we will use it as a reference to some extent, but we won't judge their endurance with this, don't you see?"

I promptly answer Rain-san question. I certainly can understand the order of who has excellent endurance with this, but that's not what I want to know.

"If it is not a test to judge the endurance, what exactly does this test measure?"

"Willpower"

"Willpower?"

Or should I say, I am gauging how serious they are. The ones who easily retire are no good. They are probably the types that give up immediately the moment it gets hard. It will be troublesome when that time comes.

To some extent, we made a rule to send rescue just in case they don't make it back even after time passes by. The ones who give up before that will truly get disqualified. If one doesn't give up and aim for the goal, that person will pass.

Even while I was talking about this with Rain-san, the people that are retiring had been returning one after another. That was fast. You can do at least a little better than that.

After I release "Gravity", and recover their stamina using "Refresh", I promptly ask them to leave. Now then, I wonder how many people will be left.

=====Scene Change=====

The number of candidates reduced from 950 candidates to 480 in one go. That means almost half of them retired.

Many beastmen and demonkins who excel in physical strength came on top, but it doesn't really matter because a person will pass as long as that person doesn't abandon the given task. Whether they came to look around or realized their lack of ability, their reasons may be numerous, but it won't change the fact that they have given up. Thanks for your troubles.

I restore back to normal the stamina of all the people who reached the goal and those who haven't given up yet with recovery magic.

Now, for the next exam...

"The following test will be a practical skill exam. I don't mind you guys using your favorite weapons. Assume that you pass if you land a single blow on me within 30 minutes. I will be your opponent with this wooden sword. Then, let's start"

I hold a wooden sword in my hand and tell them to start, but no one is charging at me. Ha? While I am wondering about that, someone among them nervously raises his hand.

"ano, who should go first?"

Ah, so that's the reason.

"There is no order. Please come at me all at the same time. Of course, I don't mind if you do it with your full power"

Is it because they think I am making fun of them with what i said? Everyone takes a hold of their specialized weapons and come attacking me at the same time.

"Accel"

I use acceleration magic and deliver a blow to anyone who is full of openings as I slip through them. As expected, they advance one after another due to how many of them there are, but I earnestly avoid them. And if someone shows an opening, I land a hit on him.

I won't strike them not unless they show a large opening. During this exam, Baba-jiisan, Yamagata-ossan, Elise and Yae examine the applicant's abilities, and I ask them to absolutely write the applicant's badge number when they judge that applicant's ability reaches a certain level. To those whom I judge that their skills didn't reach a certain level yet, I give them a single blow and make sure they are eliminated even if I feel sorry for them.

Some sharp blows do occasionally come, but there's no problem on dodging them since I applied "Accel" as well. More than half have already collapsed by the time I noticed it, and those remaining could only barely manage to stand up.

"That's enough. It is time"

Rain-san announces the end of the exam. And after the announcement, everyone simultaneously sits down on the ground. That reminds me, I was a little bit surprised since there were some acquaintances participating in the test.

I glance to where a certain pair collapsed. Ah, they really are Rebecca-san and Logan-san, aren't they? Both of them are the adventures whom we have saved in the Rabbi desert. I am sure I also had them guard my reading cafe in Belfast, but why are they here?

When they notice my gaze to them, they both slightly raise their hands. I want

to ask them, but since there are many eyes around, it would probably get troublesome if people realize they are my acquaintances. And it won't end with just those who would start talking about favoritism.

For now, I receive the memo from Baba-jiisan's group after I cast recovery magic to everyone who have fallen.

"Well then, I will announce the results. The participants whose numbers are called come this way, and the ones that don't – are unfortunately disqualified. Please go back from the castle gate. Then, I will start. Badge numbers: 3, 14, 21."

In the end, nearly 100 applicants remain. It is expected for those whom I hit hard due to them having full of openings to leave, but those who did not continue to proactively attack me are also disqualified. There is no way to evaluate those who fail to make an appeal with their abilities in this place.

By the way, both Rebecca-san and Logan-san passed. There is no favoritism since I wasn't the one who decided it.

The numbers are narrowed down quite considerably, aren't they. The rest will be determined by an interview afterwards.

While taking along the selected candidates, we go towards the castle's knight hall. I have them wait in a separate room, while we prepare the neighboring room for the interview. The ones in charge of the interview are Me, Commander Rain-san, Yumina, and one more person. We have already invited that person to give us a hand in this matter.

"I am sorry for calling you all the way here. Thank you for your troubles."

"No, this much is nothing since I owe you so much debt that I can't possibly pay back"

Her Eminence the Pope answers while laughing. I have contacted Ramisshu Holy Kingdom beforehand and asked for their cooperation. There are also several guard Templars waiting in the back of the room. With her magic eye that perceives lies and Yumina's magic eye that can see through the true nature of the person, they will be conducting the final interview.

I change the appearance of Her Eminence with "Mirage" since she is

tentatively a celebrity. While doing this, I received an order to make her look young. I don't think it would matter since she would become an entirely different person, but..... The female mentality surely is complicated.

"Well then, call them five people at a time."

Nicola-san leaves the room and returns with five people. Two beastmen, three humans. I encourage them to sit on the arranged chairs in the center of the room.

"Now then, starting from the left, please tell us your name, age and birthplace"

In the meantime, while Rain-san and I are asking simple questions, Yumina next to me checks the true nature of the applicants with her magic eye. And each time one of them answers the question, the Pope to my right closes or opens her left hand. That is a signal we have arranged beforehand. If what they say is "true" then she keeps her hand open as it is. And if it is a "Lie" then she closes it. I keep asking questions while watching her hand.

I don't particularly plan to disqualify them because they lie. For humans, there are things we don't want to talk about, and there will be various troubles when those matters are exposed. However, there is no way I can trust someone who keeps lying about anything and everything.

Well, if they say that they value themselves more than the citizens, do anything if they can get money out of it, and are okay with betrayal, I won't allow to them to pass even if they answer honestly.

The interview for the first five applicants ends, and after they exit the room, Yumina starts to speak first.

"It is better not to be quick to appoint the third one from the left and the fifth one. I believe they are thinking about some dangerous things"

"Those two have definitely told many lies. Though they had splendid poker faces"

"Poker face? Ah~, It is a technique that prevents others from reading one's facial expressions in poker"

For now, I put an X mark on those two and ask Nicola-san to call in the next

five people. Will we have to do this about 20 more times? It surely is tiresome.

=====Scene Change=====

"Ah~ I am tired....."

I drop my head down on the desk after we finish interviewing everyone. Fighting against a lot of people is much easier.

Though trying to outsmart your opponent was not a goal, I feel fed up when I see someone that lies so naturally while smiling with a composed face. The ability to see through lies is also troublesome.

"I usually make sure not to invoke it too often. Sometimes, there are things you don't need to know"

It is as Her Eminence the Pope has said. You will end up distrusting humans if you go and see through everything and everyone. I wonder, did I make her overdo it? I should hold a dinner party later to thank her.

For now, the number of candidates that passed is 64 when we remove the disqualified ones. It is a little more than the quota, but we can somehow manage with this many.

37 males, and 27 females. There are more women than I expected. As for why, I think the main reason is that the knights' order in other countries doesn't allow women to join. But here, prominent persons also came because the recruitment flyer had a phrase "Regardless of sex, race, and social status" written in it.

By the way, Rebecca-san had that reason too. Logan-san also seems to be looking for a stable job. When I asked him "Are you going to marry or something? To Rebecca-san?", both said "why would I do it with him/her?" in harmony. Somehow it seems to be another woman in question. I'm sorry.

22 out of the 64 candidates who passed are beastmen and demonkin. I could understand beastmen coming since the Commanders are beastmen same as them, but the demonkin are slightly unexpected, I guess.

Demonkins are a race that closely resembles humans in appearance. Even if they are a race referred to typically as demi-humans (The beastmen are also

demi-humans), they are close to demon beasts. Their race includes Vampires, Lamias, Ogres, and Alraunes. They also are capable of proper communication. And while they are not hostile to humans, they try not to get deeply attached to humans.

As expected, there are still a lot of prejudice against racial appearances and the characteristics of their species to the point of being subjugation targets of other countries (like the old Ramisshu).

The demonkin interviews were especially strict, but the five demokins that passed were checked without problems by Yumina's magic eye. Her Eminence's magic eye had also confirmed that they told the truth. Because all of them wished to live in human society, those five (Vampire, Ogre, Alraune, and two Lamia) passed.

By the way, speaking of the vampire, he has the vampire image, but it doesn't seem like he had any particular problem living without sucking blood. It is similar to Tobacco and Alcohol. If some people like them, there are also people that seem to hate them. The vampire who came to our household said he is weak with blood. What a weird guy.

In any case. I wonder if the initial image is being put in order with this? There are still other small details to go through, but it seems our Knight Order will be a diverse one. Well, it will be more amusing this way.

Chapter 125: The Invitations, and The Crystal Knight Order

I have added an additional Knight Hall since the number of members for the Knight Order has increased. There is no need for men and women to stay in a single place. Though I will ask them to live here most of the time, it will still be fine for them to rent a room in the castle's town if they pay for it themselves.

Besides that, I have constructed an underground training field at Baba-jiisan's proposal.

"Tentatively, those girls are the Commander and Vice-Commander, right? We cannot allow the newcomers to see how they are getting hit and kicked by me and Yamagata, don't you agree?"

It might be true now that he said it. Those three have certainly become quite strong, though they are not yet strong enough to equally fight against Baba-jiisan's group. If they are seen constantly losing, it will be bad since the newcomers might look down on them and consider that Baba-jiisan's group is more suitable to be the Commanders rather than Rain-san.

It was decided to make a wide practice field and training room underground that the top brass may use. While taking this opportunity, everyone gleefully used the never seen before training machines like the air bike, treadmill, bench press and etc. that I had prepared, but I wonder if they feel like they are just toys. You will suffer muscle pain if you overdo it, you know!

Now then, there is something little I have to do today. The management of the Dukedom is also on track for the meantime; therefore, I think I should properly organize my personal life.

Well, I believe I should announce our engagement to their parents even though it is long after the fact.

Though I have already settled it with Yumina and Rue's case, but I have yet to inform the twins Elsie and Lindsey's parents and Yae's parents as well. I am

already acquainted with Yae's parents, but Elsie and Lindsey's parents have already died. Also, I know for sure that their uncle and aunt, their foster parents, are managing a farm in Rifurisu Empire.

For now, I decide to go to Yae's parents first. After I open the "Gate", both of us moved to Oedo in Ishen.

"It surely has been a long time here in Ishen as well"

It feels strange in some ways since about half of our citizens are from Ishen. When we pass through the gates of the Kokonoe sword style dojo, the maid Ayane-san came out to greet us.

After she guides us to the room where Omohue-san and Nanae-san are, I frankly tell them about my engagement to Yae. Yet both of them do not even look particularly surprised and just silently exchange glances.

"Hey, see that. It is as I said it would be, isn't it?"

"I guess you were right. Well, that's just how it now, so please take care of Yae as how you would take care of your other fiancées, Touya-dono."

As they bow their heads, we similarly bow ours as well. Thank God it ended without any objection. I have been thinking just a little bit whether it would develop into a common situation wherein the father would say "Try to defeat me if you want my daughter!".

"However, it was unexpected for Touya-dono to become a feudal lord and for Yae to marry such a king, I guess..... You really won't know what can happen in life"

Omohue-san lets out what seems to be his strong feelings. It is true, I couldn't ever imagine for things to turn out this way myself.

"Nee, Touya-san. By any chance, couldn't you take us along to this "Brunhild" country of yours? I want to try seeing the place where Yae will be living"

"Eh? I don't mind. But, you know, it's still not that developed yet"

Nevertheless, they said that it's still fine. If that's the case, I decide to invite them to our country. After we wait for Yae's brother, Juuntarou-san, to come home, I return to Brunhild with everyone including Ayane-san who has never

traveled outside of Ishen.

"Welcome home, Your majesty~"

"Welcome home"

Cecil-san and Rene come out to greet us as I open the castle doors. Omohue-san, Nanae-san, Juutarou-san, and Ayane-san are absent-mindedly looking around the castle interiors.

"They are Yae's family. They will stay for a while so take good care of them, okay?"

"My-my, Yae-sama's ~. Then, this way please~. I will guide them to their respective rooms~"

As Cecil-san guides them, they are taken along to their rooms one by one. We should prepare lunch in the dining room at once. Should I guide them to the castle town after that? Well, there aren't that many things to see though. If it is Omohue-san and Juutarou-san, will they be pleased to go to the training field instead?

As expected. I went with Omohue-san and Juutarou-san because they said they wanted to go to the training field. On the other hand, Nanae-san and Ayane-san were entrusted to Yae because they, on the other hand, wanted to go to the castle town.

The newly joined members of the Knight Order were zealously practicing at the training field. Their training is somehow a fresh sight to see since it only had the scene of Rain-san's group being beaten to pulp by Baba-jiisan's group up until now.

While observing the training, Omohue-san and Juutarou-san said they wanted to participate as well. One could say it was also a natural outcome that could be expected from the parent and the sibling of Yae, the so called "sword idiot".

After I caught sight of Yamagata-ossan, I had him do a mock battle with Omohue-san. It's a showdown between the raid captain of the former Takeda Four Heavenly Kings and the Tokugawa sword instructor. This might be a sight to see.

When the fight started, everyone's eyes were snatched away by the

exchanges of sword techniques. Even Juutarou-san, who is standing next to me, is gazing at the intense showdown of those two without looking away.

I watched the match between the two for a while, but it was made to end at a desirable time since it would be better for the result to be a draw. After the match ended, everyone from the Knight Order gathered around Omohue-san and asked him to teach them. Having a desire to improve oneself is a good thing.

As for Yamagata-ossan, he is caught by Juutarou-san this time. Of course, since it is an opportunity to have a match with a former Takeda heavenly king, Juutarou-san can't miss this chance now, can he?

Though he's not on Omohue-san's level, Juutarou-san still put up a good fight against Yamagata-ossan. His ability is probably higher than Rain-san's group. Well, he has been learning swordplay since childhood, and he has also been to the battlefield. If one says it's natural, it would be so, wouldn't it?

Since both of them joined the new knights and begun practicing, I ended up having a free time. It may even be good to entrust this to Yamagata-ossan and head back, but they are more or less my father-in-law and brother-in-law. It is also cold-hearted of me to return back immediately. When I sit down on the bench and gaze at the training aimlessly, Rebecca-san comes over from the other side.

"You look free, Touya-dono. Oops, I must call you "His Majesty", right?"

She says that while grinning and laughing. Well, either one is fine, but she should use it properly on official occasions or when other people are around.

"I didn't think Rebecca-san would come to this country. Why again?"

"I originally desired to join a Knight Order. But since there are no chances to become a female knight without noble origins or connections, I became an adventurer to improve my skills. I then jumped at the opportunity when I heard about the requirements here"

I see. The recruitment this time nevertheless had many female applicants for sure. Apparently, Logan-san also joined when Rebecca-san invited him. And it seems they never could have imagined that the king is their acquaintance

should they ever manage to reach this country. I guess.

"I see that Will didn't come." (TL: Will is the name of the youth)

"That fellow is liked by Vice-Commander Neil of Belfast after all. I think it has been decided that he will join the Knight Order over there. Furthermore, Wendy is in that country too; so there is no way he will leave"

Apparently, Will seems to be also guarding the reading cafe "Moon Read" where Wendy is working as usual.

Though it's late, but that still reminds me, will "Moon Read" cafe be a shop managed by a state due to the fact that I have become a king of a dukedom? I wonder if it is fine for it to be managed by foreign country. Although it seems the King of Belfast would readily give his permission if it's him.

I am having them send documents with monthly proceedings and details on revenue and expenditures over the mirror gate, while I deliver new books to them once per month. And yet their management is excellent. I wonder if I should start a second shop in this country soon.

"A-and, I have a request to his Majesty the king but....."

"A request?"

"See, it's about the equipment that will make the people using those be recognized as members of the Knight Order. It maybe something like an armor, a shield or a sword. Maybe it is a flag later on. It will be better if those things are present, right?"

Rebecca-san comes forward with a proposal while blushing a little. Ah! Now that you mention it, we really don't have those things. Perhaps, it will certainly and definitely be easier to understand if there are matching shields or armor that look cool.

"Mm~, I guess it will definitely be, what you say, convenient if the citizens can immediately identify the members of the Knight order when they are patrolling the streets"

"It is, isn't it!?"

Rebecca-san claps her hands as if saying "You got my intention". Did she really want it that much? Well, she said she dreamed of joining a knight order. Also, it will be easy to identify them as knights because of the appearance an

armor or something similar gives off. She is perhaps yearning for that.

"Then shall I make one for trial?"

"Eh? Right now?"

I take out a lump of mithril from "Storage" while ignoring the surprised Rebecca-san. I then start transforming the details after preparing the rough form with "Modeling". I have made the armor with a design that appears in an anime or a game because I want it to have a different feeling to the traditional armors of this world.

I make the breastplate, shoulder pads, greaves and neck armor one after the other. I adjust the size with transformation after I have Rebecca-san put it on. I also form it in such a way that it doesn't obstruct movement while I preserve the female lines. Lastly, I make the helmet with a transparent visor, and make sure that the field of vision is wide enough.

In order to confirm that there are no hindrances when moving, I have Rebecca-san who is wearing the full body silver armor do various movements. It should be considerably light since I made it with Mithril.

"This is good! It is completely light like paper!"

While Rebecca-san is confirming the armor's movements, I take out a Fureizu fragment from "Storage" this time, and I transform it into a sword, a shield and a scabbard while I charge it with just a little bit of magic power. With this, it should be harder than Mithril. Still, it won't have the same sharpness as Yae's "Transparent Flower". I'll be troubled if it's stolen after all.

Finally, I apply weight reduction "Gravity" and it is complete. It is now a crystal-like sword and a shield. Even though it's also possible to make the armor with the fragments, it will make the armor see-through. I make additional parts so that shield can be placed at the back and the sword on the waist. And with it, it's done.

"How is it?"

"It is the best!"

When Rebecca-san enthusiastically holds her shield and pulls out her sword, everyone who was in the midst of training notices her and gathers around.

I catch Logan-san among them, and this time, I complete a similar armor for men. I make minor adjustments while I hear everyone's opinions just in case. After that, I take the completed men's and women's armor to the "Workshop" and mass-produce it for many people.

It's easy because only the shape is being mass-produced, but I still have to do all enchantments by myself.... Well, I can do it all at once with "Multiple" though. I have also made sure the size automatically fits the one wearing it as well, and I added the crest of the war-maiden "Brunhilde" on the swords and the shields.

For the top brass consisting of the Commander, Vice-Commanders and Captains, I made luxurious armors so that they would have a different look. All that's left is to prepare individual models for demonkins (Though it is fine to leave the one for vampire youth as it is), and I will be done with all that.

It's like a uniform during their work for the Knight Order to the bitter end so they probably shouldn't use them during practice. Nonetheless, the swords made of Fureizu fragments will lose their magic power if it's used during practice, and they will completely destroy the armors.

I return to the training field with the mass-produced armors. Everyone is rushing to be the first one to get his hands on the armor and is delightfully checking the texture. Ooh, they definitely give a feel of a "Knight Order" when they are wearing armors that are matching.

Later on, the Brunhild Knight Order will come to be known as the "Crystal Knight Order" because of its swords and shields. But that is a story for another time.

Chapter 126: The Farm, and A Family Reunion

I felt relieved for a short time after I had received the approval of Yae's family. This time, I have to go to Elsie and Lindsey's family to greet them.

"Even though it is entirely okay with us....."

Elsie hesitated for some reason, but just in case, it seems they roughly explained in the letter their engagement to the same partner, that the said partner is a king and so on and so forth.

Their uncle (who is seems to be their mother's younger brother) is managing a farm in a small town called Collet in Rifurisu Empire near its border to Belfast. The two lived there until they were 12 years old, and apparently, they left the house in order to become independent. It seems they thought they couldn't afford to keep troubling the uncle's family forever.....

The people of this world seriously go independent quickly..... In my former world, some continue to depend on their parents even after 20 years of age. Despite that, there are some among of them who would also say "of course, that's natural".

In any case, I will just pay my respects afterwards if the circumstances can be explained. When I proposed "Should we fly there with magic?", both of them rejected it because "it is scary" it seems. And I even went to great lengths just to remember it...

Because I saw that it could not be helped, I had received from Lindsey her memories about town of Collet with "Recall" magic and all three of us moved there using "Gate".

What comes to my view are fields spreading as far as my eyes can see. Is that an orchard in a distance? Some red fruits can be seen growing on the trees. In spite of it having a rural feel, a protective fence is made here and there. I wonder if boars or even monkeys come here. Moreover, a house with a red roof is built a bit further in a separate place. It is an old but considerably big house.

"It has been a long time for this place too"

"...it hasn't change, right?"

We then go towards the house with a red roof while I lead the twins who are looking nostalgically at the fields. That seems to be their uncle's house.

Two people are working in the field just in front of the house. When he notices us as we come closer, the man wearing the straw hat raises his head and turns his gaze at us.

".....? Elise? Lindsey?"

"It has been a while, Joseph-ojisan"

"... It has been a long time."

Elsie and Lindsey raise their hands and greet the man. And as if reacting to the greeting, the woman next to him raises her head as well.

"Elsie! Lindsey! Waah! You came back! ?"

Her face bloomed at that moment. She then rushed out from the field and embraced the two. She has a long brown hair tied together in one braid, about 20 years old..... Don't tell me this person is their Aunt?

"Emma-neesan, we are back"

"... We are back, Emma-neesan"

"Mou, You didn't come home at all! And yet you promised to come back once in awhile!"

When Elsie noticed that I was being left behind, she separated herself from the woman that was embracing her.

"Touya, this person is Emma-neesan. She is uncle's daughter and our cousin"

Cousin? I see. Now that I think about it, she resembles the two of them. Will Elsie and Lindsey become like her in several years?

While I am thinking about it absent-mindedly, Elsie and Lindsey's uncle takes off his straw hat and walks towards them. He looks to be around 50 with mixed white hair and small eyes. It is impolite, but he certainly gives off a countryside peasant feeling.

"How nice for both of you to come back. Everyone will be delighted as well... By the way, who is this gentleman?"

The uncle looks at me and then asks Elsie and Lindsey.

"We have written in the letter, haven't we? This is Mochizuki Touya. He is o-o-our future husband"

"... Fiance, ~desu"

The two become bright red while they introduce me to their uncle. Hey, if you two show this kind of reaction, even I will become embarrassed somehow.

"Letter..... you say, so this person is from that "Brunhild Dukedom" place that everyone is talking about nowadays....."

"Brunhild Dukedom King, Mochizuki Touya. I am always indebted to Elsie and Lindsey and....."

"Haa———-a!!" (TL: I saw that on anime, Haaa and then they kneel or dogaza)

The uncle suddenly kneeled on the ground when I extended my hand for a handshake. Hey, what's with this reaction!?

"Ah, mou!! It really turned out like this after all"

"...As expected"

The twins sighed while smiling wryly. Meanwhile, their uncle is still kneeling down while rubbing his forehead on the ground. Since I am being troubled on how to handle this, Emma-san who was similarly making a bitter smile start talking.

"I'm sorry, my father is weak towards the nobles and their like. Apparently, something happened in his childhood, and he became incredibly uncomfortable when dealing with them"

No, uncomfortable, you say. I feel that it's no longer at the level of being uncomfortable anymore. He must be hiding some sort of trauma you know. I am terribly worried about what happened in his childhood.

"O~, on this occasion, we are especially grateful to have the privilege of having you visit our home! W-we have nothing to entertain you with, but, I kindly ask for your highness to quell his anger and I respectfully request for a tolerant treatment"

Strange, strange. His words are strange. How much of a loose bomb did you think I am? When I turn my eyes to show Elsie and Lindsey that I am troubled, both of them shrug their shoulders and just continue smiling bitterly. No, come and help me.

"Hey, father, the King-sama is troubled, so stop this and stand up"
"T-troubled-!? By no means did I mean you any trouble! Please have compassion and grant forgiveness"

This time he energetically stood up and started explaining desperately. I finally understood what Elsie and Lindsey meant when they said "There is no need to go to our house for greetings". It is really bothersome!

I have had enough, let's leave him alone and continue the talks with Emma-san.

"This time, I came to greet you because I am getting engaged to those two. But am I, by any chance, disturbing you?"

"Nope~ My father is like that, but everyone will be happy with this news. Please meet my mother and the others as well"

Everyone? When I feel being strangely caught by what Emma-san said, the door of the house opens, and children come out one after the other.

"It is true! It is Elsie-nee-chan and Lindsey-nee-chan!"

"Welcome home!"

"Yay! Elsie-ane! Lindsey-ane!"

Oh wow! The bustling children come running and embrace the two. One, Two, Three there are six kids! Two boys, and four girls, I think.

Emma-san laughingly explains while my eyes stare in wonder.

"Everyone here are my brothers and sisters. Starting from the eldest: Shiina, Allen, Clara, Kirara, Allan, Reno. I actually have a younger brother Aaron who is a second eldest among us, but he left for the city last year and is no longer here"

Eight siblings, seriously? The uncle surprisingly did his best..... Indeed, I can see why Elise and Lindsey thought they could not depend on them in this circumstances for too long. The food expenses are probably not so insignificant

as well.

Everyone is a girl except for Allen and Allan, and Clara and Kirara are probably twins. They say there are a lot of twins in families with twin lineage but, I wonder if it is the same in this world as well.

When I incidentally look towards the house, a woman with a large body comes out from the opened door.

"Oya-oya, if it isn't Lindsey and Elsie? Have you come back home?"

"Rana-obasan!"

"... We are home. Rana-obasan"

This time both Elsie and Lindsey run up to that woman coming from the house and hug her. So this person is their aunt, right? She gives off the feeling of a chubby gutsy mother .

Rana-obasan pats the heads of the two people, speaks to them while smiling, and then shifts her attention to me and steps up.

"You are Touya-san, right? You are exactly as how they have described you in their letter. You are quite a good man. I understand it since the two spoke fondly of their sweetheart in the letter as well ~nee"

"R-rana-obasan!"

"... It is a secret. We even wrote about that"

The two raise their voices in protest while they become bright red again behind their aunt. I became interested in what they wrote, but I should stop pursuing it. I have a feeling that it will somehow backfire as well.

"Nice to meet you, I am Mochizuki Touya"

"I am Rana, those children's aunt. For the king, you are considerably humble, aren't you"

"I can't have myself behave haughtily since I just recently became one"

She doesn't seem to have a timid personality, unlike that of her husband. She is talking quite friendly. Wouldn't they divide exactly by two people if we add them?

(TLC: this is a tough one, it appears he is talking about their characters being polar opposite of one another, should one person be made by adding two of

them, it will divide by two entirely different persons)

"I was anxious since they wrote that they would be marrying a king, but it seems it was a needless worry. I can see this very well just by looking at the two of them"

"I very grateful when you believe it to be so"

Just when my heart was secretly relieved by Rana-obasan's words, the seven year old boy (he is Allen, I think) pulled his mother's apron.

"Kaa-chan, is this person a king?"

"That's right. He is the king of Brunhild, a country which is far away from here"

"If he is a king, is he strong? Can he defeat Thunder Bears?"

"Thunder bears?"

Thunder Bear..... It is a demon beast that shoots lightning from its body, isn't it? If my memory serves me right, it should be a blue rank subjection demon beast. It is two ranks lower to me since I am a silver ranked adventurer.

"Do Thunder Bears comes out?"

"Ah! There have been talks of someone witnessing it recently. There are also people that saw a lightning shine in the mountains during midnight. Because the fields are also being damaged, the residents around here gathered money, and a subjection request was put out in the adventurer's guild"

Are they damaging the fields? In that case, it might become life or death problem. Not just that, there is a high chance that people might be attacked. I don't know how many demon beasts are there, however, they do not form a herd if I remember correctly. At most, there might just be two of them and several cubs.

However, there is a subspecies that has something like a comb spanning from its head to its tail and is one size larger than regular ones. Apparently, It can also subdue other thunder bears. If it is that guy, there is a possibility that he may create a herd as well. By that assumption, the request will become a red rank which is far from being a blue rank.

"When was the request submitted to the guild?"

"Three days ago. We sent a request to the nearby big town, Senka, since there

is no adventurer's guild in this town. However, I think it will reach the town by this time tomorrow"

Assuming it reaches the town and is accepted tomorrow, it will be another three days for the adventurer who will receive it to come here, I suppose. It's better to strike before damage spreads and contacting the guild afterwards should be fine.

"I will deal with that thunder bear."

"The king will do it? Will you be okay?"

"I'm a silver rank adventurer after all even if I look like this"

I take out a silver card from my pocket and show it to Rana-obasan who has a dubious look on her face,. Naturally, I don't plan to get a reward. I should defeat it as fast as possible.

"... Shall we also come as well?"

"No. Lindsey and Elsie have a lot to talk about with your uncle and the rest, so I will go alone"

After declining Lindsey's offer, I float up in the air with flying magic. The children go "wow" and while I'm listening to their voices of surprise, I turn towards the mountains where the Thunder Bears are coming out and start flying there at once.

Chapter 127: The Thunder Bear, and an Unexpected Reunion

After I have arrived at the mountain, there is a fair number of thunder bears when I try searching for them with my smartphone. Their numbers are too many for one mountain. There should definitely be a subspecies present with this.

But, I have no way of saying if it's true even if they are that many. The villagers seem to be lucky since there isn't much damage to where they live. Actually, the fields looks like they were damaged but it was rather moderate. It is fortunate that the people weren't attacked. I wonder if this mountain is very abundant with animals to hunt and nuts to gather.

"Well that's fine. Let's finish this quickly."

I lock on all of the Thunder Bears in the mountains, but I stop for a minute before I deal with them with magic. The materials that can be harvested will be wasted if they are defeated in this manner. The thunder bear's fur should sell for a considerable price if I'm not mistaken. Besides, its liver is used as an ingredient to make medicine as well. The meat isn't bad but it isn't seemingly appetizing too. If I end up burning them with magic, the value of the fur will drop to half if it isn't entirely lost.

Hmmm, the best way is to kill them is with an edged weapon. Furthermore, a stabbing weapon does the least damage to the fur. No, the best way will either be poisoning or suffocation, or maybe something like a heart attack. Paralysis doesn't go as far as causing a heart attack.

"Confirm the thunder bear population"

<>...>

I can't leave them alone even if you say they are cubs. It will be a miracle if they manage to grow up. It's a little painful but.....

In any case, should I fire a bullet into their hearts one by one to kill them? One hour should also be enough to deal with them. First, I open a "Gate" next

to a nearby bear and move there.

=====Scene Change=====

"Fuu. I suppose it was quite troublesome"

Contrary to my expectations, the subspecies was more tenacious, and they did not easily show any openings. Its lightning attacks came down indiscriminately since I couldn't attack anything besides the heart. As such, it was troublesome to avoid its attacks. However, I somehow defeated it and stored it inside "Storage" like I did with other defeated thunder bears.

With this, there are no more Thunder Bears on this mountain. Later, I have to exchange these materials with the guild for money. Ah, I also must cancel the request made by this town. Even if it is said to "cancel", I don't think the request has reached the guild yet, so there shouldn't be any fool who would say I snatched the request or something.

"Etto~ what was it called again? Ah, Senka. The town of Senka"

I look up in my map the town where the guild that took the request is located. So it is west from here, huh?

I activate my flying magic and start flying at once. This magic is indeed convenient no matter what. I might reach the same speed if I use "Accel Boost", but this method is far easier than that. Well, "Accel" has a higher instantaneous speed accompanied by an increase in my thought process, but "Fly" doesn't increase my base speed nor does it increase my thought process. It's a matter of merits and demerits and how to use them properly.

While I'm considering those things, I see a town from the gaps between clouds. Is that the town of Senka?

Since I will stand out if I descend in the middle of the town, I have decided to go down before I reach the town and proceed on foot. I then go straight to the guild after confirming its location in the map .

It's a small building that's incomparable to the guild located in the capital of Belfast Kingdom, but the interior is unexpectedly tidy. The usual request board is lined up with various requests stuck on it. While I give it a side glance, I head towards the female receptionist.

"Welcome. How can I help you?"

"I would like sell some demon beast materials. Also, I think it hasn't reached this place yet, but I want you to cancel the request from Collet town that should arrive tomorrow"

"What do you mean?"

Because I was being looked at like I am a suspicious person, I presented my guild card. I then explain the circumstances to receptionist. Though she was surprised upon seeing my silver card, I still somehow managed to convince her with that. After that, I line up some dead bodies of the thunder bears including the subspecies in the courtyard and make them assess those. I left merely two bodies of the thunder bears to provide the villagers proof that I hunted the bears and had the rest be processed into money.

"I-it will take a little time. Will that be alright?"

Well, they were that many. It can't be helped, right? Until they finish the assessment, I should look around the guild to kill time. I'll probably browse the requests that are posted on the board.

"In the Eastern Cave ... mega slime...? I haven't defeat this guy yet."

That's because all the girls in our party are against the slime type. I met various apparitions and demon monsters since I came to this world. However the slippery sticky types like slimes or ropers were avoided. I don't plan on purposely meeting them though.

As I was browsing through the board, I saw someone suddenly appearing at the entrance. Well, although I didn't mind it as many adventures were coming and going for some time, I unintentionally looked at him a second time after I glanced at the person who entered.

(tlc: anime-style, you look at something, find it ordinary, look away, realize what you saw, look again).

"Huh? Isn't it Touya? Why are you here?"

"End.....!"

Having a white hair and wearing a similarly long white muffler, a black jacket over a white shirt and a pair of black trousers – the boy with the same monotone-style as before looked at me in surprise.

"Why is End here?"

"I want to ask you the same thing. I have just returned after subjugating a King Ape that was around here"

End answers with a bitter smile. King Ape? It's a large monkey-like demon monster. That guy is surely not smart. I fought him as well.

"No, that doesn't matter. Leaving that aside, there are a lot of things I want to hear from you"

"Things you want to hear? Well, that's okay, but can you wait for a short while? I still need to finish the request, you know"

I glanced at End's guild card as he went to the reception desk. While he submitted the subjugated portion of the monster's body, I saw that his card was that of a red rank. After he received the reward and put it in his pocket, we went to the bench in the corner of the guild and sat down facing each other.

"And, what did you want to ask?"

"It is about Fureizu. What on earth are those things?"

"Mmm~" – END looked like he was thinking about something and then started talking before long.

"There are things that I can talk about, and there are things I can't. Will that still be fine with you?"

"..... I don't mind. Tell me about the things that you can talk about"

End leaned deeply in the chair and started to talk.

"I don't know whether you believe it or not, but those fellows aren't living entities that belong in this world. I guess one should call them visitors who came to this world from a different world"

"Visitors? Not invaders?"

"I don't know if it's correct to call them invaders since they don't have any intention to invade at all. You know, they have been barely coming to this world from another world just to search for their "King""

The "King of Fureizu". I heard of it before. It's the Fureizu's purpose to find that guy.

"Then why are they attacking humans?"

"From here on out, there are things I can't talk about mixed in as well. Simply put, the Fureizu has a "core" which becomes its source of life. If it is not destroyed, it will absorb the magic power in nature even if its body is crushed. Because of that, it will regenerate after some time. And so, they kill humans in order to retrieve that "King" core that is in this world"

"Wait a moment. What does retrieving the "King"'s core have anything to do with them killing humans?"

"It's connected because this "King" core is inside the body of someone from this world"

Come again? The "King" core is inside a human body, and they are killing people to retrieve it, you say!?

"It might not be limited only to humans. It could certainly dwell inside beastmen, demonkin, or any living being with some degree of intelligence. You see, the "King"'s core is dormant right now. You could probably call it a death-like state. It can be inside anyone in this world. While the core is in this state, it's waiting to advance to the next stage. The waves that the "King"'s core emit made the Fureizu realize that it is in this world. But these fellows don't know its exact location. They can't hear the "sound" that only the "King" has. It's lost in the sounds of the host's heart. Therefore, they kill people in order to erase those obstructive sounds"

Wait a minute. So is that what it is all about? Are they going to kill every single human just to find this "King" that's inside someone!? Though their method for searching is quite thorough, that's exactly what they have been doing.

"What in hell are Fureizu....."

"Originally, they are evolved life forms from another world. But at some point, the "King" who took command of them disappeared from that world. And so, they started travelling across other worlds to pursue it. The "King" has its own objective as well. I think their way of intrusion is inelegant, you see. But even then, It should be fine to leave them alone since they are only moving based on instinct"

(tlc: well, except when they don't kill people and break stuff)

So it's similar to a queen for bees and ants. Besides, anyone could even say that they are gathering here as if they are being attracted, right? Furthermore,

did he say that the "King" also has an objective?

"Having crossed over to a certain world, the "King"'s core then dwells within someone living in there. It absorbs the host's life force little by little, and moves to another host when the previous one reaches the end of his or her lifespan. It keeps on repeating again and again, and eventually the core travels once more to another world by using this accumulated power"

"..... Are the Fureizu come here aiming for that? They kill humans all over the world and search for the "King"'s core. And when the "King"'s core move to another world, the Fureizu also leave while chasing after it....."

"Well, it is generally like that"

This isn't a joke! Are you saying they are entirely similar to locusts who leach on the humans of the world and then they leave!? They cross over the worlds one after another while recklessly destroying them. Furthermore, they themselves are not aware that they are destroying the world. They are just doing it because it is necessary. It is neither good nor evil. It's just an instinct.

"..... End, you said that you are also searching for the "King"'s core. Are you also killing humans?"

"Stop thinking like that. I wish you don't make a wrong assumption here. I'm waiting for the "King"'s core to move to the next world. I'd like you to not group me with those guys"

..... I don't quite understand this guy's aim. Is he like a guardian for the "King"'s core? Either way, it is this "King" core's fault that this world is greatly being troubled as it is.

"What about the barrier of the world?"

"Hmm~....for different worlds, you see..... these worlds are overlapping each other with a slight shift like a spiral staircase. You can immediately rise one step above but, you can't instantly rise 10 steps, right? This height is the gap between worlds. In order to ascend one step, you have to travel all the steps before it. Well, it might be possible to skip one step though. Even so, there is a barrier which prevents the intruders to come from other places. Normally, you shouldn't even be able to go one step up"

(tlc: basically, the barrier protects from traveling to the world from other

strongly misaligned worlds, but not from near worlds).

I feel like I have understood it somehow. There might be common parts between my former world and this world, so this gap might not be that large.

"I think I have said it previously, but this barrier is not like a wall. It's like a thin see-through net. That's why small and harmless things can pass to this world. That's the reason why the "King"'s core travels in its death-like state. It'sfeat only a "King" is capable of"

Is that so..... Since it's in a death-like state, I suppose it won't be repelled by the world and will dwell inside it. I wonder what it feels like coming through the gaps of that mesh.

"However, if you forcibly cross this barrier..... Well, it's usually impossible to do, but making a rip is possible. If it's repeated several times, the hole will gradually and eventually grow bigger. And once it's completely open, the barrier stops carrying out its function. That's what happened 5000 years ago"

That was the Fureizu invasion Dr. Regina talked about. She said the world was about to be destroyed..... So that's how it was.

"At that time, the barrier was somehow repaired and the Fureizu threat disappeared. The remaining Fureizu were destroyed, and the world was saved from going extinct. I also helped with hunting the ones that remained.I"

This fellow is talking exceedingly lightly about the events of 5000 years ago. He is not an ordinary person after all. He is surely not human at least. However, I wonder what happened that enabled the barrier to be restored. It seems End doesn't know either.....

"When I thought I would rest easy and sleep for some time, it got noisy once more. The barrier is starting to come apart again as well. It's still barely holding, but I guess it's a matter of time before the advanced Fureizu will also come. I don't know whether that will happen in a year or 50 years from now though."

"..... Is End a friend for humans?"

"I wonder about that. Me hunting down Fureizu is like stalling for time. Honestly speaking, I might altogether leave that matter for it to take care of itself should the barrier breaks down. However, I don't feel like being on the Fureizu's side"

I still don't understand this guy's standpoint. Can I let it pass because he is at least not on the Fureizu's side?

"Since I also have a task to take care of soon, shall we then finish our talk here?"

While saying that, End stands up and tries to leave the guild.

"..... One last thing. End, who are you?"

"Me? I am "person who crosses over". See you later, Touya."

End leaves the guild with those words.

The Fureizu's objective, the "King"'s core, the world barrier..... I have learned a lot of outrageous things. When I think about it realistically, isn't the situation quite bad? 5000 years ago, the crisis was averted by fixing the barrier. But what about this time? Is it possible to stop the Fureizu invasion? They will continue to indiscriminately kill humans until they find the "King"'s core. Furthermore, there are not that many people who can oppose them. There also isn't a single advanced technology available should they appear in large numbers like they did 5000 years ago.

While I am being puzzled over the revelation of the truth, I receive the money for the thunder bears from the reception desk and leave the guild.

Chapter 128: Counterplan, and The King of Birds

"And that's how it is. Do you know anything about it?"

"No, not at all. Like I said before, we are not always watching. Certainly, there are some races who travel across to another worlds too. However, we still can't do anything to them as well. It's a different story though if another god intervened."

On my way back after I met End, I tried asking Kami-sama about what I found out. But apparently, he is also unaware of all those things. In the end, I guess the people of this world have to resolve it themselves.

The situation has not became urgent yet , but I should probably prepare countermeasures in advance.

In the end, the most efficient way to overcome this situation is by using the power of "Babylon" after all. By using the Frame Gear created by the professor for the decisive battle against the Fureizu, I wonder if I can somehow manage to repel the Fureizu invasion by using that weapon.

Either way, I have no choice but either to procure the blueprints in the "Warehouse", or the item itself from the "Hangar". If I am not mistaken, the six parts remaining are the "Tower", the "Rampart", the "Library", the "Warehouse", the "Hangar", and the "Laboratory". So the probability acquiring either of two of them is $\frac{1}{3}$, I guess.

"I wonder if I should I look for them more aggressively....."

I fly towards Colette town while thinking about these matters.

"Frame gear ~dearimasu?"

When we returned to the castle after we finished greeting the family of Elise and Lindsey's uncle, I immediately tried to ask Rosetta in the "Workshop". It was the Professor who developed the Frame Gear so Rosetta definitely had assisted with its maintenance before.

"Can anyone ride this Frame Gear?"

"Basically, anyone can operate it, though it is influenced by the user's compatibility with its magic power and airframe. However, It will be difficult to manipulate its limbs without training"

I see. That means it is possible to increase our war potential by mass producing them if that's the case. It will surely depend on the pilot training. We might be able to fight against the Fureizu if we create giant robot force.

"However, it will be hard to mass produce them, you know?"

"Eh? Why? Wouldn't it be perfect if we use the "copy" function of the "Workshop"?"

"The amount of required materials is huge. Moreover, it will take a whole day to produce even a simple Frame Gear model from scratch"

Muu. One frame per day? It will be 30 frames per month. That much is already a considerable force, but..... According to professor, some tens of thousands of Fureizu attacked them 5000 years ago. This makes me completely uneasy.

"How many frames are being stored in the Hanger?"

"Let's see~ My humble self was not involved with other the "Babylon" that much. Including those maintained, there seems to be 7 different models that were completed"

"That's all!? How did they plan to fight against Fureizu with only those!?"

"In any case, the enemy disappeared just when they were about to start the mass production of the Frame Gears. "Workshop" #2 and #3 were supposed to be built as well"

Rosetta says so with a tone of disappointment. There were plans to extend the "Workshop", you say? However, that must be the reason why there are only few Frame Gears that exist. The situation was completely resolved before the system for mass production was implemented.

Umm, is collecting materials the most I can do right now? When I come out of the workshop, Shizuka and Flora come walking from "Alchemy Building". There are medical baskets with who knows how many bottles in their hands.

"What kind of medicine is that?"

"Ufufu, these are medicines for colds, headaches, stomachaches and other popular medicines. I made it because there weren't many reserves in the castle"

Flora answers with a smile while she's in her nurse outfit. No matter how many times I see it, I'm still not used to seeing nurse clothes outside a hospital.....

However, a medicine, huh. Even with my "Recovery" and restoration magic, there are still things I can't cover for. Hmm? Wait a moment?

"Flora, can't you make medicine without the "Alchemy Building"?"

"I don't particularly need any help since this is just normal medicine. I have refined them from raw materials in order to reduce the time for work. I can still make them the usual way if I spend more time for it, but the effects may decrease since the purity will drop"

In other words, it is also possible for other people to produce these medicines, and that also means it can be a good source of trade. Medicines for colds, headaches, digestive problems, all of these are necessary. Selling them won't produce a mountain of wealth, but it may turn out to be a considerable source of income. It might be necessary to cultivate the medicinal herbs that will become the source of raw materials.

I convey this idea to Flora and I decide to have her teach the refining process to the underlings of Tsubaki-san. Being ninjas, they should be accustomed to handling the medicines, and there should be a lot of people among her subordinates that are good at it. With this, we are ready to start the business of selling medical supplies.

When I come back to the castle with Shizuka and Flora, I decide to immediately consult with Rin about what I have heard from End.

Accurately speaking, Rin is Misumido ambassador, but I consider things related to Fureizu as matters that exceed nation borders.

"The Fureizu "King", the invasion from another world, the world barrier, you say....."

Rin lets out a big sigh and leans back on the chair. Well, she must be

surprised. Pola next to her has crossed its arms and posed like she is troubled.

"I have been living for a long time, but this is first time I hear this kind of story. Usually, I would say "what kind of joke is this?" but..... The amount of conclusive evidence is way too many for it not to be the truth, don't you agree?"

"There is also a possibility that End is lying though. I am thinking whether that might be the case or not"

"Other people might not believe it even if it's the truth, until the Fureizu invasion starts that is"

Definitely. Even if they recognize the Fureizu's existence, they would only consider them as a new kind of demon beast. Even the ones we have met by chance are only three types, and those are the cricket type at the ancient ruins, the manta type in Rabbi desert and lastly the spider type in the Great Forest Sea. Those, and the snake type that Rin and Misumido soldiers have defeated are all Fureizu we know of.

It is possible that some Fureizu that have also appeared were already being hunted down by End as well.

It will be too late to take counter-measures after the Fureizu invasion starts. We have do it before it's too late.

And at present, those plans are revolving around the search for the remaining parts of "Babylon", and the collection raw materials for Frame Gear.

"Meanwhile, we're making sure we are gathering information about things like suspicious ruins or deserted temples, right? But even when try to investigate them, they are just mere ruins with nothing interesting in them, so it ends as wasted effort"

Umm, Rin's subordinates are the only ones who are made to look for them. Alright, I should send out scouts as well. As I bid farewell to Rin, I go to where Kohaku's group is currently in and I try asking whether there is a summoned beast suited for collecting information.

"If that's the case, I think it absolutely has to be the ones who fly in skies. They are fast and can go to various locations, right?"

Kuroyou makes such proposal. Does that mean that it will be birds as summoned beasts? They certainly can go anywhere and should be the most suitable for searching.

"Master, it will take time to summon and to make contracts with them one by one. Make a contract with the one who governs the family instead"

"Mu. Sango. Master, are you really going to summon that one?"

Kohaku interjects on Sango words. Are you referring to the one who governs the family of birds?

"《The Flame Emperor》. He is the same as us, the winged king who controls fire. You will be able to summon thousands of birds at once by summoning and forming a contract with the Emperor"

Indeed. If I am not mistaken, Kohaku is the king of beasts, while Sango and Kuroyou are the rulers of reptile lineage, right? They can control summoned beasts without problems and even employ general creatures to some degree. It seems useless against demon beasts though.

It is the bird version of that.

"The one that is called the flame emperor, what kind of person is he?"

"Contrary to the owned abilities, the emperor is gentle. With the best character among us"

Kuroyou cut into Kohaku words while grinning and teases him.

"I wonder about that. Aren't we the ones who have a better character?"

"Shut up, you instantaneous boiling pot!"

"What did you say ~gora!"

The pot has instantaneously boiled. It fits them perfectly.

For now, I have calmed down the two and I have decided to summon that fire emperor.

I draw the summoning formation in the castle courtyard and raise the concentration of dark attribute magic. Eventually, a black fog starts to appear; furthermore, Kohaku and others mix their spiritual power inside of it. I add more magic power to the fog that has gradually grown thicker.

"Summer and Flame, South and Lakeshores, the one who rules all of them. Answer my call. Show yourself here"

Tremendous magic power is born from the fog, and a column of fiery crimson pillar rises up inside the summoning formation. A vortex of flame blows off the fog, and a bright red bird is standing there when the pillar of fire disappears.

It's nearly the size of a horse, and its figure closely resembles the legendary bird called Phoenix. Is this the 《Flame Emperor》?

"As expected, was it you guys? It feels nostalgic yet again"

"It has been long time, 《Flame Emperor》"

"Flame-chan, ~long time no see"

"A flashy entrance as ever, 《Flame Emperor》"

The voice of the 《Flame Emperor》 sounded like the voice of a calm woman. It seems she certainly has a calm personality like Kohaku said.

"Is it you, who has summoned me?"

"That's right"

"He is our Lord, Mochizuki Touya-sama"

The flame emperor displayed a look of surprise to what Kohaku said, but she eventually gazed at me patiently and slowly closed her eyes.

"I see. Towards the one who is accompanied by 《The White Emperor》 and 《Genbu》, the result probably won't change no matter what I do. Let's make a master and servant contract. Mochizuki Touya-sama, grant me a name for the contract."

Huh? Surprisingly, It surely is proceeding smoothly. She isn't demanding any condition either. Well, I am saved thanks to that. Apparently, it's just like how Kohaku said it. Her character is a gentle one.

Apart from a name, huh. Umm, since I came up with Kohaku, Kuroyou, Sango, a name that closely resembles them will therefore be better after all. Mm~.....

"Alright, then Kougyoku. It's the name of crimson jewel. How about it?"

"Kougyoku..... I have received it. Please call me by my name "Kougyoku""

'Pontsu', the flame emperor, no, Kougyoku changes her figure to the size of a

parrot and lands on my shoulder. I suppose she won't cause a racket if she is in this form.

Then, shall we fulfill our original purpose?

While I borrow the power of Kougyoku, we summon approximately 1000 birds from the summon formation in one go. Various birds of all colors and species are leaping towards the sky and start flying in all directions.

I send a telepathic message to all flying birds so that they will report to me if they discover any suspicious ruins or buildings, strange facilities or stone monuments. It will be good if they find anything.

I couldn't help but pray for that while looking at the birds that flew away.

Chapter 129: Baseball, and baseball field

Quite some time has already passed since I have released the scouts, but no valuable information comes in. The world barrier might be destroyed while I am waiting like this.

Even if it's said that Kami-sama is managing this world, it surely is tough on him. This is because it is akin to noticing an insect chewing on a page of a book out of several books lined up in the bookshelf inside my room. It's not like he can keep watching this particular page all the time as well.

"Can't you search for the Fureizu "King" with your search magic?"

I sigh again to Elsie's proposal.

"I have already said this many times before, but I surely cannot find something I have yet to see and something in which I have no complete grasp of its characteristics since it will be too vague. It will be a different case if I know its shape or something since I will be able to differentiate it just by knowing those. In the first place, I can't have knowledge of its appearance since it is residing inside of the human"

My search magic "Search" isn't accurate. It depends on my evaluation for a set of criterias. Let's assume there are two people in front of me. Even if one is a woman and the other is a man who has perfectly disguised himself as a woman, my search magic will judge both as women.

Of course, if I get the impression that "hey~hey, this is a man not matter how you look at him!" from the female clothes he is wearing, my search magic will properly judge that person as the man, while the other as the woman. Conversely, it will judge two people as men if one of them is a woman who looks like a man.....

In other words, it only does a search according to the standards I set. Also, it is possible to repel it by using a strong barrier. However, I can search for things that are "similar" or "authentic looking". But, there is no way I can know if it's "authentic looking" when I don't even know how the "King" core looks like. If, for example, I totally believe it when I say "This is a "King" core" to a random

stone from around here, then the result of the search will most likely overflow from all over the world.

"In any case, it's not like the circumstances will be that convenient for things to easily go that way"

I mutter silently while I'm using "Modeling" and sitting on a bench in the corner of training grounds. Well, I guess I have to accept the way things are, right? I am thinking about it while transforming the cow leather in my hand.

"Your Majesty? What is it?"

Logan-san had come in front of my eyes before I noticed him. While holding a wooden sword in one hand, he was wiping his face drenched in sweat with a towel. He was looking at the leather products I made in my hands.

"It is a glove. I am thinking of teaching baseball to the children in the town"
"A glove?"

"It is to play catch..... Ma, I guess it will be quicker if I show you instead"

I take out a ball that I have already made, throw it against the castle wall, and catch the bounce with the glove. It has been since elementary school the last time I wore a glove, but my body still remembers its feeling.

"That's how you play catch..... It is about catching the ball. However, it is originally a game played by nine players against another set of nine"
"Huh....."

I make another glove, give it to Logan-san, and we try to play simple catch. At first, he missed picking the ball up, but he quickly got used to it and was now catching it smoothly. This is because the people in this world are quick-witted.

After they finished their training, the soldiers looked at us with jealousy as they were watching us playing catch. As such, I had copied the ball and the glove in "Workshop" and distributed it to everybody. Vice-Commander Nicola-san smiled bitterly, but since it was free time after their training was finished, he didn't particularly say anything. I'm sorry.

Etto, two, four, six..... Hmm, we have enough players. I wonder if they would rather prefer to play baseball. Everyone might also have fun rather than just calling it as taking a breather.

I take everyone who doesn't have anything planned after this along with me and make a baseball field in the plains to west of the castle. And even if I said that, all that's left to do is to make bases, a batter box, and a pitcher mound..

I prepare new bats, catcher mitts, and protectors, and teach everyone the simple rules. Frankly, I decide to check the small details when needed since I myself don't know the details to that extent.

For now, it is best to remember the rules while playing the game. Then, the game starts while I watch as the referee.

It went awful for a while. It was a repetition of dead balls and strikeouts. The scores were all walk-ins. However, they soon began to properly hit the ball with the bat. This was probably because they were practicing fencing. And when they are able to send the balls flying, the roughness of the defense started to stand out.

At first, a lot of fumbling, errors and tunnelling could be seen. But they started to handle them more skillfully while they kept on repeating them. I was surprised by this for a minute. I'm aware of how high their physical ability is to some extent since their work originally requires them to strengthen their bodies.

(TLC: tunneling = letting a grounder go through one's legs, I don't know the right term)

I have decided to call the town kids with "Gate" to show them the game since it became something that could be properly watched. I briefly teach them the rules and while I'm at it, I make some seats for the spectators

"It is hit, it is hit!"

"Run~n!"

"Do your best~!"

Everyone from the Knight Order raised their voices towards their own teams while they are side-to-side to the children who they themselves got engrossed in the game and started to cheer shortly.

"What you are doing, you throw it to the first base here, you fool!"

"Ah~! I said look properly at the ball! Raise your hand, Now!"

"Switch with mee-!"

Although what they were doing was mostly jeering. You guys should learn from the innocence of the children.

Since I didn't teach the rules in detail, the situation became in such a way where the one that makes a blunder alternates with someone else. I wonder if things should really happen this way.

"Well, it seems like they are enjoying themselves more than anything."

While everyone was absorbed in the game, I was steadily finishing the stadium. I was completing Backscreen, outfield fence, scoreboard one after another. In short, I have made a fine baseball stadium.

Since it is getting dark, it's probably about time to call it a night. I have left the baseball kits with the Knight Order, and decided that it was fine for them to use the stadium together at their free time. I have also made small kits for the children who came to watch. They can probably play amateur baseball anywhere since there is enough land.

Starting from the next day, the knights who were off duty and those who finished training started to play games in the stadium. It seemed like they had made several teams, played with each other and were competing with results. However, the teams were named after demon beasts names like "Griffons" or "Salamanders", and it made me wonder whether it's that different from Earth.

Everyone comes to ask me about the rules if there's a problem. Each time this happens, I must check the internet to resolve the problem. I wonder if I should eventually make a rule book for this world. It should fine if I make the transcription with "Drawing", but it's also troublesome to convert it to this world letters. That's because mixed in it are words like "America" or "Major League" which they won't understand.

Eventually, the town citizens also began to show interest in baseball. They have started to come and watch the games. Soon after, there were some people who also wanted to try it themselves. And immediately sensing that they would need tools for that, the Misumido trade merchant Alba-san negotiated with me for the sales rights.

Well, I agree to it since there is no particular reason to decline even if I let him produce those things somewhere else. Alba-san has agreed to have a

percentage of the profits be paid to my country, same as the time with the spinning tops (Beigoma). I also wondered at that time if this will become profitable in other countries as well.

During the monthly Western alliance meeting, the cheers coming from outside were heard by the kings of each country and this attracted their interest. They instantly became crazy about it after showing them the baseball game that was the cause of the cheers.

I offered the baseball kits to each nation after I was being pestered for it. Teams were created in each country, and unexpectedly, the game started to become popular. Now, it seems that baseball is being played in every country here and there.

When people have a day off, they make a team with friends that think the same and play against other teams. Their family and other friends will then watch the game. It looks like cheering becomes a form of entertainment as well. I wonder if it's possible to start a professional baseball league soon.

Frankly, I could never thought it would become like this, but it seems Alba-san had expected it to some extent.

"However, I don't know what will be a hit anymore (TL: hit as success)....."
"When I heard that His Majesty started it, I absolutely have convinced myself that it would be a hit"

Alba-san answers while chuckling in the reception room. That's right. I have forgotten the greed the people on this world have for entertainment. There is not much variety for things called sports in this world, particularly in ball games. I wonder, will it sell if I bring up anything as a "Game"?

"And, if you happen to create something again, I wish you allow our company to handle the sales"

"Mmm..... well, I have many ideas. However, I wonder what is it will likely sell"
"Hohou. This is very interesting"

Just now, I have a feeling Alba-san eyes sparkled with a flash. It's probably the Trader Sprit. Ah, that's right.

"It will be some sort of compensation, but in regards to the steel materials.....

things like iron, copper, silver, mithril, orichalcum, and hihirokane, can you obtain these materials cheaply?"

"Steel materials, you say? Let me see..... It's possible to get them from a particular route. But how much do you need?"

"I don't know yet how much is needed. Let me see. From now on, with the profits you get from tools I offer, I would like you to get as much steel materials as you can"

I should prepare enough material so that the amount of materials the frame gear may require won't be a problem. I think I better start saving them now on, but I'm not sure if I can collect the necessary amount even if I start doing it now.

"There seems to be some sort of reason for this. I shall thoroughly start searching soon. It's also a business, and I'm in a position to make a profit"

"I'm grateful that you could accept it. So, regarding the goods, there are the Yo-yo, Hula-hoop, Hopping, and kendama (Cup-and-Ball) for the playthings"

"All of them are tools I haven't heard before. Can you teach me more in detail?"

I make a Yo-yo to actually try and use it in order to explain it to Alba-san. The one made of plastic is the best, but since it's non-existent, I have used the wood instead. I have also tried to display the other playthings I mentioned before, and explain how to play them.

For now, I managed to secure the funds required for the frame gear. I honestly feel awkward using everyone's taxes. Shall I subjugate a Mithril Golems again later? However, I think i will be able to easily defeat it this time. Well, am I slowly going forward?